

T H E
S C H O O L
O F
V I R T U E.
A NOVEL,
ON A NEW PLAN,
INSCRIBED TO HER MAJESTY,
BY A GENTLEMAN OF THE TEMPLE.

*Vero nibil verius,
Sola virtus invicta.*

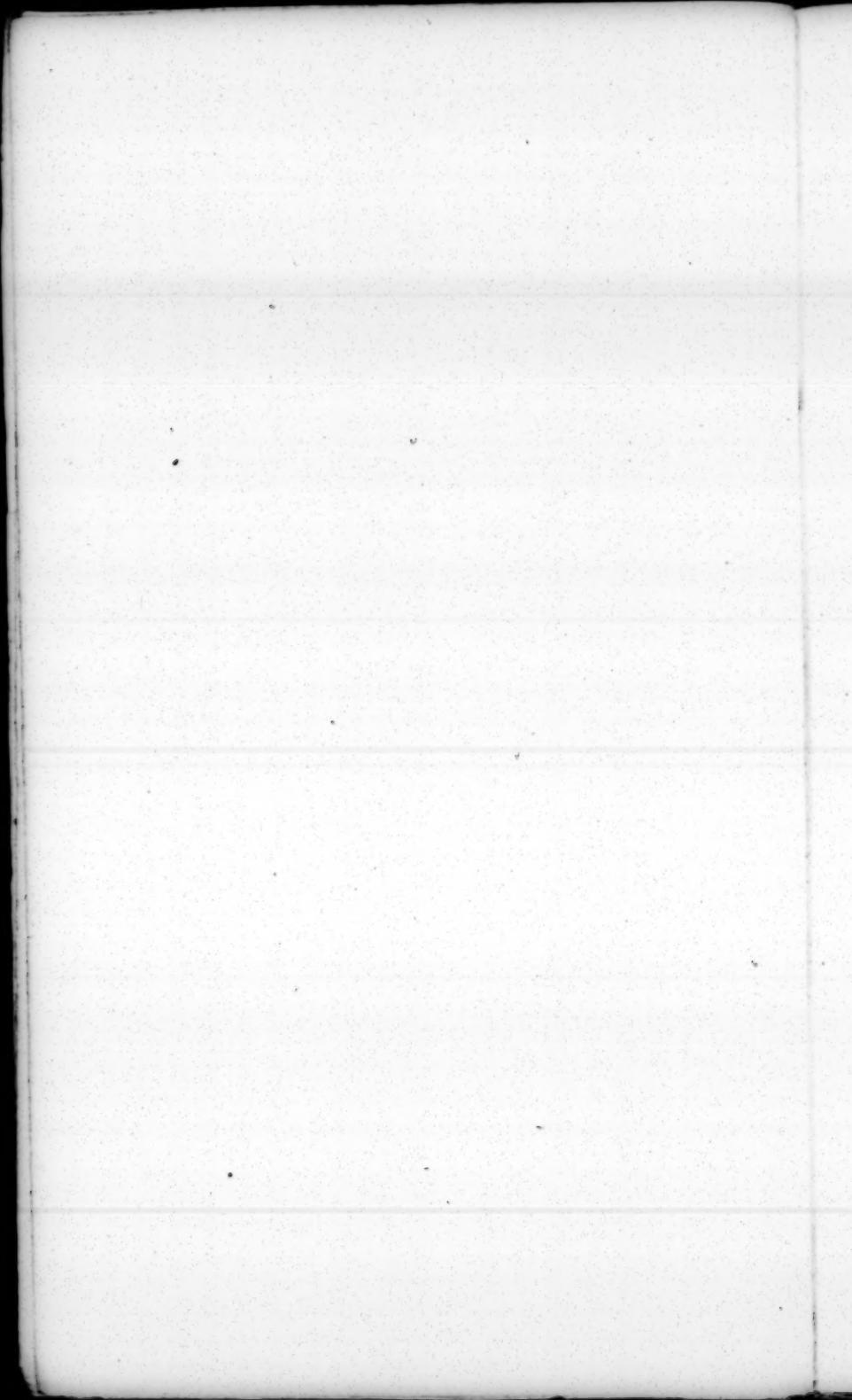
HOR.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. II.

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THE Portugueze ship proceeded on her voyage, without any material occurrence, until the sixth day after her departure from England, when the sea became very rough; and altho' the vessel was deeply laden, and kept steady of course, yet Miss Colville was so much affected by sea sickness, that her recovery was doubtful.

Lord Dacie had hitherto behaved with all the respect imaginable, and gave every possible attendance to render

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her situation as agreeable as could be expected, but her grief was not to be soothed;—she pined with inward sufferings; and had been so late an invalid, that her constitution bore evident marks of declension.—About sun set the breeze abated, and in a few hours it totally subsided.—Lord Dacie seated himself by her bed-side in the state room, and addressed Miss Colville in the following manner.

“ I perceive you give way to an indulgence of your grief,—a passion, in your present situation, very unbecoming; but if you persevere in it, the effects will be of a serious consequence,—for,” continued he, “ if you mourn the loss of that spiritless fellow, Henry Howard, your penchant shall be gratified;—he shall have your charms, if you are willing to resign yourself to his care in preference to mine;—but this you are to remark,

remark, as the test of truth, that I shall reap those sweets that were so long intended for Mr. Howard;—and only two days further consideration shall be granted, in which you are to determine on the matter.—The choice is in substance this,—you must at all events yield to my embraces at that period;—if it is willingly performed on your part, I shall espouse you in legal form on our arrival at Lisbon, and then return with you to England as my Lady:—and consider, Madam, that my family and fortune are equal to your own, and that you once had consented to give me your hand; which contract would have been long since consummated, were it not for the schemes of your composing, as well those of my Cousin, Miss Dampier:—for to her I owe the hardships I have felt, ever since Mr. Howard returned from his travels.—But on the other

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hand, if it is a forced compliance on your part, the consequence will be this, I shall detain you during my pleasure, and then send you home by the first vessel I shall find suitable for your safe conveyance, to that idol of your affections; and no doubt, as he is possessed of so much religion, he will thankfully accept you, and be resigned to his fate of being cornuted, as many men of rank and fashion often are.—So, Madam," continued Dacie, "you are at liberty to be a wife or a mistress, both of which are freely submitted to your own choice; whereby a state of future repentance on your part may be avoided.

"I shall now withdraw, by to-morrow you will be more recollect'd in your thoughts;—and as it is now calm weather, I shall not disturb your rest any longer."—On saying these words he wished

wished her a good night, and retired to his room on the other side of the cabin.

This choice, as Lord Dacie had termed it, was more than a dagger to the soul of Miss Colville.—She in despair, prayed the author of her being to release her from the tyranny of this wicked man, by calling her hence,—as there were no other means, in human probability, to protect her from the loathsome embraces of a man in whom was every species of villainy;—therefore the names of a wife or mistress, to such a person, were equally odious; and whose promise of a performance to make legal the former appellation, was not to be relied on; at best it was sacrificing herself to a son of Belial, from whom every evil consequence was to be feared.

She spent the night in lamenting her misfortunes, often earnestly invoking

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voking the deity to avert the ruin that so nearly threatened her.

In the combat of a resignation to the will of heaven, the delusive enemy of our nature held out the quick means to avoid shame and misfortune, by making her quietus in suicide.—This alluring bait was gilded over with the beauties of roman virtue, and an exaltation of mind, and the use of such means when necessity required it, with a thousand suggestions equally palatable to a mind not fraught with the principles of uncorrupt religion;—but in all these methods of seduction the enemy found nothing in her; and not being able to prevail, he retired, leaving her to converse with the spiritual comforts she received from a sole dependence in a resigned state on the goodness and mercies of God: abhorring in her soul the idea of self-murder,—that gloomy monster that

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recently hath shewn his power amongst christian nations.—The very opposite power to the beneficence of the author of nature.—For how can a creature, which is composed of the dust of the earth, presume to disembody himself, to appear naked in the presence of glorious spirits, before the throne of grace, with the entire burthen of numberless imperfections laid open to view? It is a horrid thought indeed! and is the most depraved and atrocious crime man can commit.

About ten o'clock in the morning Lord Dacie again waited on Miss Colville, and by great persuasion she sipped a little tea; not having taken any sustenance, that would visibly support human nature, since her decoy from Bath, except tea.

The day was nearly at a period when Lord Dacie again renewed his solicitations.

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tions to her concerning the proposed choice.—She mildly observed ;—that he should grant her time, till the ship arrived in the port of her destination, to consider of the matter ;—but in this he peremptorily refused to comply.—His tenacious disposition made her apply herself to reason with him, which she did in the following words :

“ I know, My Lord, I am now in your power, so far as a command over my person will admit,—but surely, you will not be so cruel to exert that prerogative over a person of my sex, by snatching from me the felicity of my future existence, in depriving me of a title I prize equally with my life, and which in the fruition can afford you no solid satisfaction.—Reflect, but for a moment, the offence such a crime would give to the supreme being, and what destruction it will bring down on your head for violating

lating the laws of God and Man!—
You know the manner in which your
wiles allured me from my friends ; and
altho' it was an imprudent step in me
even to consent to meet the man whom
I thought was to be my husband; yet a
tenderness for him, through a perfect
knowledge of his honourable principles,
made me comply.—The stratagem you
used can never redound to your credit ;
so that on a due consideration of the ag-
gravated character of duplicity, that you
acted both with me and all the world,
I think you cannot do less than in-
dulge me with time to make my election
on the position advanced by you.—Ho-
nor calls aloud to you not to violate her
system in an action so repugnant to the
laws of human nature, both moral and
divine;—for even after the rites of the
church were performed, it would be
time enough to ask any favor that is in-

my

my power to grant.—Pray, therefore,” continued she, “for heaven’s sake don’t triumph in my misery;—but have pity on the feelings of human nature, and do not insult the restless state I am placed in;—your kindness herein shall not pass without grateful acknowledgements.”—Here tears started in her eyes, and grief prevented her further utterance.

But the attentive Lord, with a sullen brow replied, “Madam, it will not avail to try by the art of words to dissuade me from my purpose; for if you and I are in this vessel on Sunday night, I shall accomplish my desires:—the rest of the rites of honor leave to me.—Your demeanor shall, agreeably to my proposition, ensure you future regard;—for I suppose you mean to claim protection at Lisbon, if you possess what I am determined you shall not have in your power to plead; for if you are admitted but once to my bed,

bed, that Court will not look upon you otherwise than as a wife or a mistress.—Here you shall not be too crafty for me. Was I to admit this, it would be folly indeed; for I have been at a great deal of pains to bring matters to the present crisis, therefore all schemes to divert me from my purpose will be vague, and answer no intention whatever.—So, Madam, desist, and make yourself happy;—for nothing on my part shall impede it. If you can, make yourself easy, until an opportunity serves to quiet your stings of conscience,—altho' with me, I must confess, it is an idle useless ceremony.” He ended here, she rejoined in the most pathetic manner to grant her request, alledging, she would not take the advantage of claiming national protection; (altho' it was her secret intention) but in all her reasoning and fair promises the hard-hearted ravisher seemed unaffected.

fected.—She cried, and claimed on her knees his protection and favor; but he remained inexorable, and went aloft, leaving her to her own determination, as he said, for no words could persuade him to change his brutal purpose.

The next day passed, in which poor Miss Colville felt all the pangs that a malefactor can feel the day before execution.—Saturday morning was now approached,—the sky looked red and lowering,—the face of heaven seemed changed,—the winds seemed howling and hollow,—the ship rolled exceedingly,—the wind set in to the southward,—upon which the Captain called all hands aloft;—every one did his part with alacrity, they saw the winds were determined to contest the point with the watery element.—Presently vivid flashes of lightning rolled along the deck,—the echoing thunders, with dreadful

ful murmurings passed thro' the watery clouds,—the wind in frantic sport tossed the sea in mountain heaps, forming valleys at pleasure;—the loaded ship with difficulty went up the limpid hill, but with redoubled velocity ran down the steep declivity,—thus the ship and her cargo were become in a few hours the mock and sport of contesting elements.

Danger with all her terrific attendants made her appearance,—the Captain, in despair, cried out hard weather!—to prayers!—and in the same instant almost, called to lighten the vessel!—Overboard were hove valuable bales of merchandize.—Death in various forms stared every one in the face,—all seemed struck with horror at the approach of that grim-visaged monarch;—to all he seemed terrible, except the amiable Henrietta;—she smiled at their danger, and thanked heaven that had changed her suf-

sufferings,—being happy to be in the power of God, in preference to that of vile seducing man ;—with pleasure offering up her breath into the hands of the being who had given it.

It was the reverse with Lord Dacie; —in wild disorder his hair stood erect, —he saw death as the fell monster of terror,—he prayed with despairing agony, —and in broken accents, with a most fearful countenance, invoked the God of mercy to forgive his sinful soul. Thus in his humility he craved forgiveness from Henrietta for the wrongs he had done her, and also for those he intended to perpetrate; and in his seemingly dying words, solemnly vowed, that if the ship should outride the storm, he would not attempt to violate the laws of moral rectitude;—but that she should be safe in his care, and no insult ever should be offered.

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The storm after some hours abated, and by the appearance of the sabbath day, rested from its vigorous fury, and about noon became perfectly serene.

Miss Colville was dubious of the faith she could place in Lord Dacie's promises to her, tho' to witness them, he appealed to heaven;—and whilst she was ruminating on his words, he came to her bedside, and with a pleasant aspect, gave her notice, that that night was to afford him all that human happiness, could bestow.

These words struck her with horror,—she reminded him of his vows to heaven, and to forbear such wickedness;—her words were wasted in the air;—he said he had sworn to fulfil his desires, and that it was equally as great a sin to perjure himself by the omission, as the commission; and desired she would not resist him.—She prayed him earnestly to think

think of his words when death was near, and to forego his wicked purposes; for that she was come to a determined resolution, to lose her honor only with her life; and therefore, if he attempted to force her to a gratification of his unlawful desires, she would not only resist him, but oppose her strength to his, and offensively maintain her privilege.— She hereupon called the Captain of the vessel, and craved his protection;—but Lord Dacie's purse had commanded him already, therefore, in vain were her treaties; he was deaf to all her complaints,—and as for her threats, he knew they must prove abortive, for Dacie's ends obtained, set aside the force of complaint.

Now seeing every refuge vanish, except that of her own breast, she was determined to yield only by the force of power;—bravely resolving, and firmly
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determining, to perish in the conflict, rather than pollute her virtue.—A principle which every lady of honor should imbibe;—for in defence of God's law, if a life is lost, the virtuous competitor lives or dies without an imputation of sin.

The clock time piece shewed the fourth hour since noon.—Lord Dacie had confirmed, with an evil imprecation, by an oath, that at six o'clock he would gain all he wished for;—to which Miss Colville protested, in the presence of heaven, he should not.—Her words were scarcely repeated, when the Captain slipt down the stairs, and on entering the cabin, gave by his countenance symptoms of fear equal to those which appeared on his brow during the preceding storm.—He said, a corsair was in chase of the ship;—for a vessel had just now hove in sight, which had fired

a gun to Leward to bring him to;—however, he had crowded all the canvass he could to escape. As for themselves as British subjects, they would be safe no doubt, as all the states of the piratical infidels were in amity with Great Britain;—but as for him, and his crew, together with the ship and the remainder of the cargo that was saved from the storm, would certainly be the absolute property of the infidels, who would make him and his crew slaves.

The reader may conjecture what were the difference of the feelings of Miss Colville, contrasted with every other person on board.—It sounded to her as a reprieve from heaven, as she had an uncle who had resided at Fez, in Morocco, but was now at Algiers, as Plenipotentiary from the Court of Great Britain;—and added to this, she was certain,

tain, on being reported, any of the states would free her.

Lord Dacie was petrified, and stood aghast, quite motionless, plainly perceiving her opposition to the title of being his wife would separate them; and in all probability he should not meet with her again until they returned to England.—His countenance fell,—he lowered his tone,—and in faltering accents begged she would pass for his wife; which assumption (he observed) to the Mahometans, would preserve her from insult.—To this she hastily replied,—“No, my Lord, I will trust my person with Turks or Heathens, rather than with a perjured wretch, who can claim no sanctity in any religion;—your heart is corrupt, therefore your words and actions partake too much of its quality;—so of all mortals existing, you are the most detestable to me;—for even
your

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your dying words are not to be regarded."—"But"—rejoined his Lordship, "admitting all you say to be true, —I don't mean to contradict you, only remain neuter, whilst I inform the captors of our names, quality, and nation."— She replied, "Enough of your diffimulation, I shall not hold any converse with you, but claim their protection."

By this time the galley was plainly in sight, and within a league, bearing down on them with all possible expedition.— The Portugueze captain seeing it was impossible to escape, was laying to for the Algerine to come up with them, as by their flag and pendant it was easy to distinguish what nation she was of, altho' it was now near the dusk of the evening. The Portugueze sailors were all panick struck, finding that such inveterate enemies were to be their masters.

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In vain did Fernandez, Lord Dacie's servant, who had procured the means to enslave himself, by acting in iniquity, the performance of trepanning Miss Colville, implore his master, to use his endeavours to obtain his liberty, as the servant of a British Lord ;—His Lord- was too busily employed to attend to any thing he said ;— whereupon, the af- frighted wretch fell on his knees before Miss Colville, imploring her favor and protection, which she promised, notwithstanding his villainy, in conjunction with that of his master, was the means to bring her thither.—Even the base minded Captain Cordoza, also claimed a share of her favor and protection ; altho' he had, an hour before, denied her the like boon, at the greatest extremity a virtuous mind could possibly ex- perience.

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The galley was now along-side the ship ;—the pirates boarded with their usual ferocity, clapping the Captain and all his crew into irons.—Lord Dacie was taken into custody, and Fernandez would have partook of the same fate of his countrymen, but Miss Colville humanely interceded for him, by alledging, he was a British subject,—therefore he went with his master.

The Captain of the galley was an English Renegado, who had fought under General Mounsey in America, and recollects Miss Colville to be the General's sister, which was a happy circumstance ; and she therefore received all the politeness that could be expected from an apostate infidel Captain, who had chosen this life, merely to get a sufficient booty to enable him to live independent, whenever he should think proper to steal off to his own country.—But this is a
bad

bad scheme indeed,—to hazard both soul and body for filthy lucre !

The captain of the galley immediately removed Miss Colville into the cabin of his war ship ;—he layed before her a variety of preserved fruits and sweetmeats, with a plenty of chocolate and coffee, made in the European manner.—This was a seasonable supply, and the only hearty meal which that lady had eaten since she left Bath ;—for tho' she drank tea on board Cordoza's ship, yet she eat nothing except a biscuit about noon each day ;—she was therefore thro' her late illness, and the harassed state she had experienced, quite reduced to the appearance of a skeleton; and might be said to be no more than skin and bone, notwithstanding the cruelty exercised by Lord Dacie for the completion of his brutal desires, taking no pity on her reduced state of health.

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The galley bore away for Algiers with her prize, where we shall leave Miss Colville and Lord Dacie, and return to see what went on during this period in England.

Mr. Howard, Captain Colville, and General Mounsey having spent a week as was before remarked, in a fruitless search for Miss Colville, returned to Bath with all the dejection of spirit imaginable. However their gloom, except that of the disconsolate Henry, was soon removed;—but he mourned his mate in silence.—Sir William Howard did all he could to console his son for the irreparable loss of the accomplished Miss Colville, and by degrees opened his mind to him with respect to another choice, naming Lady Ann Catesby, or Lady Olivia Beaumont. But Mr. Howard knew where their hearts were engaged;—but if they were free, this

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proposal at present would have no influence on Henry.—The impression already made by virtue and innocence, were not easily erased ;—the dear image of Henrietta was never out of his mind; and to reflect she was in the arms of such a monster of deceit, as he was convinced Lord Dacie was, put him into flights of torment that bordered on insanity.

He at times fostered a hope in his bosom of the interposition of providence in the favor of innocence,—but he as oft scouted the idea ;—well knowing, that the good man is as much, if not more liable to misfortunes than the evil man :—for providence permits, for its own secret purposes, things to pass, that in all appearance, to the superficial eye of human nature, is loss and misfortune.—Yet a benefit arises to the sufferer, that more than sufficiently compensates for his vexation in the vi-

sitation of the calamity.—As Mr. Howard was now become more thoughtful, yet resigned to the decree of heaven, he mentioned to his father a wish to return to Howard's Castle, in Devonshire, with which Sir William chearfully complied.

About this time it was known in most polite circles that Miss Dampier was pregnant. Such a report in the bon ton goes at the ratio of wild-fire;—few diminishing the shame or misfortune of their acquaintance,—on the contrary swelling the account from one to another, until at last it becomes a hyperbole of incredence, and sinks into oblivion, thro' the means ill-nature had undertaken to fully the covering of truth.—However, here the story could neither add or diminish, unless some ladies might report she was to produce twins or a monster.—But the real fact was, she was in a few months the mother of

a young son ; and as Sir James, her father had never that happiness, it was a great acquisition in the family!—Report stood tiptoe to know the author of her misfortune, or as others stiled it, her fortune; but in this the new made mother was also very explicit, for a stranger had not been admitted, a friend, and a relation, was the person admitted to partake of her amusements ;—the already execrated Lord Dacie was the cause of his relation's increase.—This put him up again to receive the discipline of tongues :—for one worthless man to destroy the happiness of two ladies, and the peace of several families, was deemed a very capital offence all over England, which no doubt it was ;—and by the sequel we shall find how his thrift turned out.

Mr. Ward was now the constant and accepted visitant at Feverham-House,

the seat of the Marquis of Languedock.—He saw and admired the talents and abilities of the young clergyman, and found out his daughter's inclinations to be fixed on that gentleman; therefore he was resolved to prove the affection of Mr. Ward, before he made his purpose known.

About this time he admitted the honourable Mr. Ward into his family, as his chaplain, which was a desirable situation for the accommodation of the lovers,—for every day afforded hours of converse;—and altho' Lady Olivia was not without a considerable train of admirers, yet no person had influence enough to assume the name of rival.

A 'Squire Lee, and his sister, who were the sister's children of the Marquis, paid a visit at Feversham-House.—The Lady, whose ~~Name~~ was Arabella, and who was really a fine woman, was possessed

essed of a fortune of ten thousand pounds, then in her own hands;—the Marquis therefore judged this a proper opportunity to try the sincerity of the honorable Chaplain's pretensions, and in a friendly manner opened the business to him, by declaring his approbation, if his niece's affections could be obtained, which he had no doubt but Mr. Ward could with assiduity gain; and he should acquaint Miss Lee to look upon Mr. Charles Ward in quality of a suitor in future.—This proposition staggered Mr. Ward; he was cautious in giving offence, therefore in reply to the Marquis, he returned him his sincere thanks, but declined his answer until he should acquaint his friends of the honor his Lordship proposed doing him, to admit him as a relation in his family.

The Marquis dismissed the subject for the present, but in a few days renewed it;

it; when the generous-minded Ward, with a sincerity that would do honor to a prince, frankly owned he could not accept of the terms his Lordship had proposed;—and that had he seen the Lady in question two years sooner, he should have been happy to have embraced the opportunity,—as she was a Lady of rank, fortune, and beauty;—but he must confess, he loved a nearer relation to his Lordship, and that Lady was no other than his daughter:—“ And ” continued Mr. Ward, “ I shall openly confess, I cannot be happy with any other Lady, were her pretensions ever so great to the high rated trifles of fortune;—for with Lady Olivia, I should be the happiest man living, did she but possess only a covering.—I would have sooner made known my pretensions, but the difference in the scale of fortune, I judged, would mar them; now,

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my Lord, I assume an equality of fortune, as by the loss of my two elder brothers, one of whom died of a decline in the South of France a few days ago, and the other nearly about the same time of the like disorder, in this Kingdom, I am left to claim the honors of my father's title and fortune, whom I presume you knew."—"Very well, replied the Marquis,—and now," continued he, "you are the Earl of Bellview, I presume."—"Yes, my Lord," rejoined Mr. Ward, "I am,"—"Well then," says the Marquis, "I shall let you know the whole of my intentions.

"As you were a Character which took my attention, I paid particular regard to your conduct;—I found, both by report and observation, that my daughter really loved you;—I judged your income was not very large, I therefore schemed the plan of proving your affections

tions for my child, and this was the day I purposed to open my mind to you, by offering you my daughter's hand:—for the wretched passion of avarice, I thank heaven, has never had any dominion over me.—As I have but one child, was your income not to produce five pounds annually, there is enough to support the dignity of my family.—But now, my Lord Bellview, for in future so I shall call you, you are at liberty to name the day you are to be my son."

Mr. Ward in a polite manner thanked his Lordship, and hastened to relate to Lady Olivia the substance of their conversation,—as he had not seen her since the express came with the news of both his brothers deaths.—The interview no doubt gave both parties sincere happiness, to be permitted to assure formally, what they so long had been secretly, that is, true lovers;—but the
death

death of such near relations obliged Mr. Ward to remain for three months longer in his present state, until the period of mourning was at an end.

Captain Colville, during the time that Lord Colville, his father, had forbid him to visit Lady Ann Catesby, was constrained to carry on a correspondence with that Lady in the utmost privacy, well convinced of the violence of his father's passion, should he know of his disobedience.—He had an assurance of the lady's affections for him, and had on those grounds imprudently mentioned to her the practicability of an elopement,—which had such an effect on her principles, that she doubted the Captain's sincerity for a considerable time afterwards.—This is a very proper remark to be made by every Lady who has moral rectitude, and a care and regard for her character, to shun the man,

who

who would propose such a hazardous scheme;—which carries infamy in the very name of it,—and shews, that the woman who consents to elope under the sanction of immediate marriage, is no better in her virtuous principles, than the mistress who consents to go into lodgings, until her seducer fulfills his promise;—which by the bye he never meant to perform.—*Sans changer comme je fus!*

The Captain was very much alarmed at the diffidence Lady Ann had assumed, in her credence of his sincerity;—he on all occasions endeavoured to persuade her of his integrity of heart, and that his intentions were to get the marriage rites performed in private, as the family difference had retarded it, the preliminaries whereof had been long since settled;—but all he could advance had but little influence on Lady Ann, she was.

was of a contrary composition to that of her brother, Lord Dacie;—she was virtuous, and dutiful, but very timorous, which was a guard over her morals,—a principle which should be imbibed by the younger part of the sex;—for they cannot be too cautious of the deceits and crafts of the world,—especially if a Lady is in possession of beauty or fortune, to engage the attention of the libertine or the fortune-hunter,—two dangerous and detestable characters.

Meanwhile a true account was transmitted by Lady Dampier, to her husband, from whom she was but just come over, (for Sir James was a second time appointed resident at Algiers) of the stigma cast on their family, by the imprudence of their daughter, and the deceit of her nephew, Lord Dacie, whom she had drawn in his true colours, without reserve;—and in her narrative gave him

him to understand, that the shame and odium brought on their daughter Charlotte was irreparable,—as his Lordship had eloped with Miss Colville, whom he decoyed by stratagem:—and entreated Sir James to return to England as soon as he could, for on her return home she had found, that by Charlotte's imprudent conduct, his affairs required a speedy rectitude in many particulars.

This news came to hand a few days previous to the return of the Renegado with his prize to Algiers, which had the desired effect on Sir James, for he immediately dispatched a messenger to England, claiming letters of recal from his embassy;—and in consequence waited only the return of the messenger, to fulfil the forms of office previous to his departure for England.

His uniform conduct and proper demeanor gained him the countenance
and

and favor of the Dey, who respected him very much;—and as marks of his approbation and esteem, made him many valuable presents. The officers of state belonging to the Barbarian Court were also greatly taken with the manner of Sir James's rectitude, and particularly Benhaded Mustapha Beg, who was the Abalaroux, or Captain General of the Dey's forces, whose galley the Renegado commanded, which had taken the Portugueze ship.

The galley arrived with her prize in safety. Benhaded Mustapha Beg, the Captain General, and Sir James Dam pier, were then at Oxora, a village three miles from the City of Algiers, on a party of pleasure, created merely to entertain Sir James in terms of friendship prior to his departure for England; —and of consequence the Captain of the galley was under the necessity of bringing

bringing thither all the captives or ransoms taken in the prize.

The Renegado made his appearance with Cordoza and his crew as captives; Miss Colville, Lord Dacie, and his servant Fernandez (at the instance of Miss Colville) as British subjects; who, on the interposition of Sir James Dampier, as representative of his Britannic Majesty, were to be liberated and sent to England at the expence of the state.

The weather being at this season very pleasant in Barbary, the rural retreat of the Mahometan Chieftain was very well laid out to enjoy the luxury of Musulmen; for the Haaram, or petty Seraglio for the female captives of christian Nations, was in the form of a semicircle, close to the rotundity whereof were the appartments of those unhappy persons which providence had permitted for his own wise purposes to fall into the hands.

hands of this Infidel Chief. In the interior part, from the radical line which formed the segment, was a beautiful garden, which, contrary to the general practice of the Mahometans, was laid out in all the art and taste of European Nations;—in the middle of this delightful spot, was a small neat building, in the Ottoman stile, with projected balconies, so that the front which formed the piazza, overlooked the platform, which was enclosed by palisades of curious workmanship,—which entrance into this Prifon-Palace was more difficult than a European could conceive; and was merely that captives should, under the parade of the attendant Eunuchs, enter in a pageant to set forth the grandeur of this Mahometan Lord.

Sir James Dampier and Mustapha Beg were at the Balcony when the Captain of the galley entered with his pa-
geant.

geant:—The Captives first and the Ransomers following.—Sir James no sooner cast his eyes on the prisoners, than he immediately recognized his niece, Miss Colville, and the nephew of his Lady, Lord Dacie, who had brought shame to his family; he therefore with a suitable dignity, informed the Lordly General, that the Lady who had passed into the portico of inspection was his niece,—and that the Lord who followed the captives was a nephew to Lady Dampier;—and gave him a detail of such part of the intelligence which he had received from Europe, as he judged material to answer his purpose.

Mustapha Beg was happy to have it in his power to oblige Sir James, and instantly dispatched a messenger attendant to bring thither the Lady.—On the summons of the Eunuch Miss Colville was petrified with fear, least any

innocent liberty should be taken before she could apply to the Court of Algiers for protection, not knowing where to find her uncle.—But the Renegade Captain dispelled her fears, with an assurance, that nothing was to be feared from his Lord, for that the English Ambassador was with him, therefore it was a fortunate circumstance. On hearing this, she with haste accompanied the attendant to the presence chamber, where she was at the door saluted by Benhaded, who retired, that Sir James might have an opportunity of embracing his niece and hear the story of her adventures.—This was a signal favor of the utmost respect from a proud Mussulman.

Sir James received in his arms his niece, and wept over her with different emotions;—first, with grief, supposing her debauched by the vile seducer who

accompanied her,—and then with joy, on being so fortunate as to have it in his power to protect her, and give her every comfort and assistance, until he should bring her safe to her disconsolate parents;—being convinced, from the amorous disposition of Multapha, that had he set out for his native Country, her transcendent beauty would have endangered her liberty.

The overjoyed and surprised Lady dropt quite insensible in his arms, and not without the services of an attendant Eunuch was brought to a state of sensibility.—Returning animation gave her astonished senses reasonable application;—she poured out blessings on her dear uncle, who was the agent of heaven, to assist her in the most critical juncture.—She then related the whole story of her extraordinary history, since her return from America, until that instant

fiant period; the recital of which drew a second time tears from the manly brow of Sir James:—for his feelings were acute, when suffering innocence experienced such severe trials.—He joined with his worthy relation in returning thanks to the omnipresent power that protected her from pollution under the dominion of the agent of satan, who (Miss Colville found out by the servant Fernandez, whose liberty she sought to restore,) had by a large bribe gained over the Renegado Captain to report them to be man and wife;—which would afford him an opportunity to accomplish his wicked design on her virtue.—As Dacie did not know Sir James had been removed from Fez, by his own choice, to Algiers, therefore at the expence of every thing sacred, the wicked man purposed to perpetrate the villainous work he had undertaken;—but the Omniscient power
frus.

frustrated his desired purpose, and exposed all his artful projects, to his utter shame and disgrace.

After a long conference the waiting Eunuch acquainted his Lord of Sir James's wish for his return, which was complied with, by his immediate presence;—upon which Sir James gave the substance of his Niece's adventures, and on hearing of it, he in a friendly manner congratulated him and the lady on her miraculous escapes from surrounding dangers, and on her arrival at a place of safety;—generously offering her all the services in his power to bestow.

She, with every acknowledgement thanked him for his kind professions of friendship, and in an opportune and seasonable minute, craved the liberty of Cordoza, (notwithstanding his behaviour to her in the hour of trial and imminent

minent danger) as she had promised him so to do, in kind compassion for his family, he having a wife and several children dependant on his industry,— who must pine in want, should his assistance be withheld;—for her system was to do good for evil, which in the end answered every good purpose, as it was heaping coals of fire on the heads of enemies, and commanded their future friendship, with the due sense of gratitude. She also begged the liberty of Fernandez, Lord Dacie's servant, to whom she had promised her protection, and who was grateful for it, as the intelligence lately given had instanced,— for in so doing, he had incurred the displeasure of his master;—yet he was careless in that, choosing to flee from a man whose employments would have inevitably made him a slave for life, had not the injured innocent lady, who with-

withstood the shock of combined villainy, and which she sustained with surprising fortitude, become an advocate for him; and to whose benevolent disposition he should be indebted for the term of his natural life,—Miss Colville having reported the truth that he was a Portuguese.

The courteous Mahometan without a minute's hesitation, freely granted her request,—and ordered them instant liberation.

They were conducted to the Mustapha's presence, and fell on their knees to return him thanks, which he refused, saying, “Thank that generous lady, who fulfils the belief your religion requires, in doing good to her enemies, in which character you have both acted your parts, though happily for her without much success;—go and retain a due sense of gratitude,—learn from a woman,

man, a lesson of true wisdom,—be thankful to the supreme being,—repent, and be happy.”—He then dismissed them, but not before they had with tears of gratitude, sincerely thanked a thousand times, the goodness of Miss Colville. They both of them were conveyed to Portugal, in a vessel of redeemed captives, which was then putting to sea.

Lord Dacie was during this time, in a painful state of suspense;—he was quite crest fallen, on finding his trusty servant in iniquity had recanted from his principles, and had not returned.—He was, as all base minds are, on the appearance of danger of the most trivial consequence,—mean and grovelling,—ready to worship the most abject wretch that could shew the least favor.

The time came that released him from his meditation.—He attended Mus-tapha,—

tapha,—but what was his surprise,—confusion—shame —terror — and remorse, on seeing Sir James Dampier, his uncle, whose daughter he had debauched!—He would have sunk into a state of annihilation, could his will bring forth wishes into works!

Sir James, in the stile of a true Briton, asked him what he thought of human nature?—the works necessary to secure a peaceable conscience here, and a happy state hereafter!—to gain either, he had pursued a wrong method;—but he should help him to pursue another course, which in the end would bring him to a due sense of the obligation he was under to him.

Lord Dacie found by the stern aspect of Sir James, that here his career must end!—This guilt brought in accusation —and for the first time, perhaps, in his whole life, he felt the pangs of compunction.—

punction.—His silence was an interpretation of the perturbed state of his mind;—but Sir James undeceived him in his conjectures, and addressed him in these words :—“ Pray, my Lord, which of those Ladies is the real object of your choice,—my daughter or my niece?—I find you are resolved to be a near relation of mine.”—Dacie, with a downcast look, and a sigh, replied,—“ Sir, I have abused your family, it is true, and perhaps would have gone further, were it not for the accident that prevented me.”—“ Silence your wicked tongue,” replied Miss Colville, “ it was not accident that prevented you, nor chance either, but the interposition of an invisible power, whose influence only can bring you to an acknowledgment of what you are.—You have abused my uncle, who has the misfortune to acknowledge your kindred, by seducing

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my cousin Charlotte;—therefore, to atone for your crime, make her your wife, who has now a pledge of your unlawful amour, and then you will palliate only the illegal step you have both taken:—However, assimilate the honor due to your progeny.”

Lord Dacie found that Sir James had received the full particulars of his conduct in England, he therefore was fearful of his anger,—as cowardice is inseparable from base principles,—and in a tone of humble supplication, craved his pardon;—and that he would repair as much as in him lay, the injury he had done.—Sir James, who perceived that Lord Dacie would not only promise to perform, but absolutely swear to any thing that should avert for the present moment his displeasure, seemingly therefore acquiesced in the solemnity of his Lordship’s assertions;—finding it
of

of no real service in the cause of his daughter, to enlarge further upon a subject which gave him pain in the recital.—Besides, Lord Dacie would not have been his choice for a son in law, had his daughter behaved with prudence and discretion.

Benhaded Mustapha Beg, who had left the presence chamber on the entrance of Lord Dacie, to view, and order the disposal of the captives which were brought in by Captain Maanoka, the Renegado, (which was the name given by the barbarians on his conversion, and which implies, "*a reformed sinner!*")—A singular epithet to be given to a vile, or the vilest of sinners, who had renounced his interest in the Messiah, and had entered into the cabal of Mahomet, the wretched impostor, and was an open enemy to most christian nations, in the character of a public rob-

ber.—This fellow, who we have before noticed, was an officer in the British service in America, but through disgust had sold out and entered himself in the list of apostates in the road to destruction, gain being his only God!) gave the necessary directions to the captain, and had just now returned;—who, on finding his friend, Sir James Dampier, in better spirits, wished him joy.

The heads of the conversation being related, he gave it as his opinion, that Lord Dacie should, without fail, repair the disgrace he had brought on so worthy a gentleman as his excellency, the British Ambassador, was allowed to be, by all ranks in that state; the Ottoman Court having always ratified his requisitions with signal marks of approbation:—the Dey of Aigiers, as the tributary of that power, paid him all the respect due to his exalted station;—particularly

ticularly his own merit had enhanced his regard for him beyond the respect paid to his predecessors in that high office, which he then filled with honor to his King and Country.

Sir James thanked the generous Algerine for his liberal compliment,—that he had with such candour reported, what his merit could in no wise claim, but his friendship had with such kindness bestowed. — Mutual compliments passed between them. — Lord Dacie, tho' callous in the state of corrupt principles, gave his honor as a pledg^r, that on the first opportunity he would do that justice to Sir James and his family, which his conscience called aloud to be performed;—in short, the hypocrite was never better acted than by his Lordship at this juncture.—In his soul he was resolved to forfeit every little he advanced, tho' he had pawned honor.

honor and honesty for the comfortable covering of a good opinion, which was freely granted by Sir James and the noble Algerine.

Miss Colville only remained of the doubtful sect, as she saw the caricature of deceit was of congenial parts and principles with the artful schemer:— truly supposing, was he to be out of his present situation, and a carte blanche presented to him to be afterwards on his filling it up, attested,— that a single sentence of what he now advanced would not be inserted.— For tho' liberality of sentiment was her just claim, yet she well knew, by woeful experience, that Dacie wanted a cardiac medicine to perform the regular action of a man, who feared his maker,— loved his fellow creatures,— or regarded the useful laws of civil society.— For all was a chaos,— a very mist of darkness and

con-

confusion in his breast, to perform all the cast of parts which he ought not!

Dinner being prepared, the noble Mustapha regaled his friends with all the pomposity and stile of the east; (for the manners of Mahometans in all nations are nearly alike,) where we shall leave them, and see how affairs went on in Great Britain.

Sir William Howard and his son having retired to the family seat at Howard's-Castle, spent their time in happy converse on the mutability of mundane enjoyments; and by opposing philosophy with religion, Sir William easily demonstrated the theory and practice of both,—when to his satisfaction he plainly perceived the near affinity the one had to the other;—for by philosophy, (which is a word derived from the Greek, signifying a love of wisdom) is that useful science, which comprehends

the

whole system of morality, or the duties of human life, commonly called ethics.

The next thing it comprehends, is the knowledge of the causes and effects of things, whether external or internal, in the air, earth, or waters, which may be said to proceed from natural causes, agreeably to the order of creation by the supreme being.—The other part of the science, is in the curious speculation of the existence of things; by which calculations in the revolution of the heavenly bodies are made, with other experiments which are commonly called the Phænomena of nature.

Religion, (which is derived from the Hebrew, signifies the duties of human creatures to the Deity, and to their own species,) may be subdivided into three parts, comprehending natural, moral, and revealed.—The first was the worship of the gentile world;—the second;

second, by the jews under the law;—the third, to the christians, thro' the atonement for sin by the messiah, whereby the law is done away, and the world is now under grace, that all who repent of their iniquities and believe, may receive remission thereof and be saved.

Thus the good Baronet satisfied his son of the affinity of philosophy and religion, which are so nearly allied, as to render it impossible to separate them,—therefore, it would enlarge the faculties, and illumine the ideas of the fair sex; were they to study these grand sciences, on which all our happiness here and hereafter solely depends;—and as their abilities in comprehension, for the most part, are superior to that of the opposite sex, there can be no reason assigned why they should not partake of the inestimable blessings of those studies, which in
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the junior, or adult, can be, by assiduity, attained for the most part in a few months; —or at least so much of both, as by application at leisure hours, a proficiency may be gained,—and then we shall have publications of the compositions of the fair, in all the abstruse principles of science; which are now, for the most part dogmatized to a mechanic standard:—as, tho' reason and religion were to be dealt out to mankind by a market corporation, with weight, measure, size, shape, colour, and a thousand et ceteras.—Pray, fair readers, exert your talents, and rival those sons of nominal learning.

At intervals the loss of Miss Colville was a recollection in Henry's breast, that brought with it all the pangs of a lover's despair,—as it may well be supposed, he conjectured her to be, by this time, the absolute wife or mistress of his false friend;—for the

name

name of a friend had been bestowed by the liberal minded Henry, from the period the deceitful Lord assumed compunction, until the time Mr. Howard arrived in England, and was undeceived.—Yet he did not withdraw that familiar title; only added a preceding well-adapted word of falsehood to it, by constantly stiling the absent Lord, his false friend.

In these paroxysms, Henry's delicate feelings were in the extreme of agony wrought to the highest pitch of human suffering;—yet he did, when thus attacked, avoid his father's presence, with a view to keep him from being a partaker of his sorrows.—Upon those occasions he oft times went to the projecting summit of the precipice, beneath whose awful craggy limbs the object of his thoughts was cast into the bosom of the briny deep;—contemplating on her

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miraculous escape from an enraged element, that in the calm of the morn usually dashed with impetuous force against the shelving teeth of this ponderous competitor;—which, in his reverie gave him a glimpse of hope's celestial ray, that the power, whose care had preserved her from the dangers of such potent forces, in the time of a mountainous tossing sea, when winds and rocks had combined in the utter destruction of presuming mortals, who by their art endeavoured to outride in their wooden walls, the contending elements,—that she alone should be restored to the happiness of society; altho' experienced persons, who knew the art of steering their naked frames thro' the surging flood, had tasted the bitterness of death, whilst the inexperienced timorous female, knew no method to gain a measure of the shortest name.

THE SCHOOL OF VIRTUE. 6r

name thro' the deluge of surrounding
sheets.

These cogitations often gained their point,—and soothed the lover with providential faith,—that still a door was open to receive the object of his meditation from all the pursuits of designing man, assailed by the grand enemy of peace.

Thus the mount became a place of sooth ing resort,—which to a timorous head would have caused a speedy dizziness on the horror of the gaping jaws of a thousand opening clefts, that only spring tides gave a moistening to their wind dried fronts.

Serious conversation only, had admission between the sage and his gloomy son,—for melancholy had so constantly attended him, that it was in vain to drive her from the duties of her employ;—though Sir William often endeavoured

deavoured to beguile the tedious hours with chearful converse and recreating amusements, the vicar and physician, with other worthy characters assisting; but in this he failed,—for Henry was only a spectator, a smile not daring to approach his lips,—so well had the pallid votary of his attendance kept her regulated duty in its course.

Music was always agreeable, if the plaintive strain was performed.—In this refining employment Henry engaged many hours of the heavy measure of time's glass;—for in this art he was an amateur, and had attained a competent knowledge to dub the connoisseur.

Thus the days were spent in Devon's pleasant shire; — the revolving year going on its circuitous motion with clogged wheels.

During this time the Bath meeting dispersed;—each family going to their

mar-

mansion.—Lady Dampier about this time received her husband's pacquet, which in substance contained his request to the British Court, for leave to return from his embassage;—but things having received a different turn since her letter to him to return, she therefore withheld it, and at Court his request was not known.

The scandal of the day being more than her Ladyship's pride could brook, she therefore, with her fallen daughter, resolved again to visit the African shore, to find amongst infidels, what a christian country had denied to her daughter; who could claim no excuse for levity and bare-faced error in straying from virtue's track.

They embarked for the Barbary shore, leaving the young offspring of the prolific pair, (Lord Dacie and Charlotte Dampier,) to the care of an experienced nurse,

nurse, at Craydon, in Surry, near the seat of Sir James Dampier in that county.—Charlotte on parting with the infant shewed a mother's care by her sorrowful countenance.

The weather being fine, and the winds fair, they left sight of Albion's shore with a pleasant gale; tho' not without a sinking slate of spirits, on reflecting, the land they had just lost sight of, was their native soil;—where a certain succession of the comforts of human life might have been had in abundance, had not dire necessity obliged them to go in quest of the like solace in a foreign climate, where the attainment of them was all an uncertainty.—And as neither her Ladyship or Charlotte drew any of their happiness from the source of religion, it may be naturally supposed, they were without much comfort in the prosecution of their voyage:

—as

—as, the notion of leaving cares behind, is but a mere idle tale, founded in the theoretical chimera of an inexperienced imagination:—For let it be understood, in future, by adventurers who have done wrong in one country, and who fly to another to forget their errors or evil haunting of thought,—that, wherever they go for such purposes, their minds will accompany them,—and the faithful monitor of the heart,—their consciences,—constantly accuse them.

Captain Colville was on a precarious footing at Ashbridge.—A young nobleman of family, who bore the title of Lord Fairford, was much approved of by the Duke and Duchess, in the qualifications of his person and family;—but what met their greatest approbation was the largeness of the income he was in possession of;—and altho' they liked his person very much, yet Lady Ann,
their

their daughter, was not of their way of thinking,—for she neither approved of him in that respect, or in any of the many qualifications he was said to possess,—as he was too much of her brother's wily craft, to merit her approbation.—He could act the very saint in public,—but was, in the receptacles of his secret retreats, a very lewd and abandoned character.

Lady Ann, altho' she had treated the Captain rather severe, yet was satisfied of her having sufficient provocation, by the insult he had offered to her virtue, in proposing an elopement;—for tho' she really loved the son of Mars with all the ardency of a prudent lady, yet she had resolved never to break the commandment of God, by disobeying her parents;—or provoke the wrath of Heaven, by violating its holy laws, in making a private match, tho'

it had been with a Monarch, without their entire consent and approbation ; —and had rather, in obedience to their commands, have given her hand, to a person of their choice, to be her husband, tho' the compliance should make her days miserable, than run counter, in making her own bargains, without their consent. But she was satisfied of the tenderness of her father and mother, in not forcing any person on her that was not agreeable to her.

Lord Fairford paid her a visit in due form ; —but the lady, with an honest sincerity assured him, it was in vain for him ever to expect a compliance in her, to be suitable to his expectations ; —therefore it would be advisable in him to desist, as his solicitations would answer no end.

His Lordship took great offence at the plain avowal of her Ladyship, and in

in a haughty tone declared his intentions were to persist in the liberty her father had given him, in paying his devoirs to her;—and added, that women were sublunary beings, consequently liable to a fickle fancy,—and that perseverance, even by the help of patience, had repeatedly wrought wonders.

To this coarse compliment her Ladyship thankfully acknowledged his elegant simile would do honor to the sex; and further added, ironically,—that she supposed his taste and judgment corresponded with the elegance of his sentiments. If so, it was a pity a nobleman of his accomplishments did not seek for some object that was not subject to mutability, or under the influence of the planetary system;—as in her opinion, the study of humanity was omitted by modern polish, or else the diminished worth of female happiness would not be

over.

overlooked by every pretender to a character of rank.

His Lordship could hold out no longer,—his heat was visible,—as he perceived the lady had in sentiment an advantage over him.—He replied in a hasty tone, that notwithstanding he might not be the object of her choice, yet to suit his own inclinations he should repeat his visits so often, as to preclude her an opportunity of receiving the favors of the discarded Captain,—alluding to Captain Colville:—“But, continued he —“if I find that hero is continued in your list, I shall chastise the haughty spirit that makes him assume to be on equal terms with me.”

These words were uttered with such an affected air of consequence, as made the prudence of Lady Ann give way to a smile of contempt ;—informing him, at the same time, that Captain Colville
was

was not only on equal terms with him, but with the first nobleman in the kingdom, for he had both rank and fortune, added to merit, to warrant his pretensions;—therefore it was not altogether so commendable, in her opinion, for a gentleman to menace an absent character, who had equal pretensions in every respect to those he could assume.

Lord Fairford was hasty in his temper, therefore he could not tamely submit to the rebuke of a Lady, for the unmanly part he had acted;—but with a seeming shew of indifference forced a loud laugh,—which gave occasion to the Lady to leave him to his own private thoughts.—This he did not notice, but paid her repeated visits;—and finding the vanity of his pretensions, was resolved to shew to his mistress the greatness of his spirit, that she might not think so lightly of him, as he perceived

ceived plainly, she had on all occasions given him to understand.—So in the hour of heated imagination, by the aiding assistance of old hock, he sent a challenge to Captain Colville, or rather a threatened chastisement, as though he had dominion over him.—The letter was as follows :—

“ Lord Fairford desires Cap-
“ tain Colville will not use his influence
“ with Lady Ann Catesby, to retard the
“ honor intended by the noble Duke, her
“ father, to be done to him.—If Cap-
“ tain Colville should persist, he may
“ expect disagreeable consequences to
“ be the effect of his imprudence.

“ Thursday Noon.”

Captain Colville received the billet by Lord Fairford's servant, who instantly returned without waiting for the Captain to open it, as his Lordship had commanded him, for fear a disagreeable

answer

answer should be returned.—Captain Colville could not forbear smiling at the assumed air of dictating authority with which the menace was fraught;—and immediately returned the following replication:

“ Captain Colville did not know he
“ had a dictatorial pedagogue until
“ now;—but lest the office should make
“ Lord Fairford forget himself,—Cap-
“ tain Colville discharges him from
“ henceforth; and shall in future contend
“ on all occasions any pretensions his
“ Lordship may presume to have to a
“ certain noble lady,—and defies the
“ threats of a bravado.”

“ Thursday Afternoon.”

This letter was sent by Captain Colville's servant to his Lordship,—who was under particular instructions to wait for an answer.—In this he was disappointed,—for his Lordship, thro' the effects

effects of his elevating dose, was constrained to lay himself down to rest on his bed, to retrieve, by the assistance of sleep, his reason and recollection, therefore the letter was left.

The morning gave his Lordship an opportunity of reading the spirited answer of his rival; he was very much perplexed how to manage matters;—and as his name was enrolled in knight-errantry, on taking a repeated bumper of brandy, he sent the Captain a down-right challenge, to meet him the next morning at eight o'clock, with his friend, at an appointed ground.—This was delivered by Lord Fairford's servant, by whom the Captain returned a written answer, in which he acknowledged the receipt, and accepted the treat.

Accordingly Captain Colville called on his brother, General Mounsey, who
Vol. II. E readily

readily attended him to the spot.— They waited until past nine o'clock, and were for returning to town, when Lord Fairford and Captain Thwaites made their appearance, in his Lordship's coach, and would have passed them, had it not been for Captain Colville, who called loudly to the coachman to stop.

Lord Fairford and his second came out;—his Lordship, in a faltering and stammering voice endeavoured to apologize for his having kept the Captain and his second so long waiting, alledging, his watch was the occasion; but here Captain Thwaites interrupted him, by saying, he understood ten o'clock was the appointed hour;—to this his Lordship stammered as a reply, “he must have mistaken him;”—“however,” said General Mounsey, “you are both time enough to kill one, or perhaps both!”

By

By this time the honorable Mr. Ward, now the Earl of Bellview, made his appearance, having heard of the appointment of these victims to false honor, and joined the antagonists and their seconds;—when, after a friendly salutation, as he was known to all the parties present, (and was a relation to the General, as was noticed before) he enquired whether or not they had seriously considered the business they were going about?—To this Captain Colville replied, “my Lord Bellview, the noble Lord who has brought me hither, has given me sufficient cause to vindicate my honor, in seeking reprisal; for by his hostile invitation, I am to protect, at the hazard of my life, the dignity of my rank;—therefore, as a man of tried courage in the field of glory, I scorn to be deemed unworthy of all I assume.

E 2

“ This

" This proud Lord, whose arrogance is not to be borne with, has, by an unprovoked insult defied me.—But I am come here with a determined resolution to have the satisfaction of his opposing his life to mine;—and as a Lady is the disputed prize, only with my life shall I resign my pretensions to her:—and to evade my sword, will at this time, to all intents and purposes be nugatory and cowardly!"

Lord Fairford replied, "you are hasty, Captain Colville;—it was in an hour of inebriety, at the instance of this gentleman, (pointing to Captain Thwaites) I undertook to compose a mandatory card, to require your attendance here this day, and do now acknowledge I was in error."

Lord Bellview rejoined, "I do not take into consideration your false reasoning on either side,—for the diabolical usage

usage of duelling should, of all the lists on record of barbarous chivalry, be the first that should be expunged, being repugnant both to the laws of God and man;—for what man of the least serious reflection, but must shudder at the thoughts of being hurried, in the very act of offence, in the real breach of the divine command,—before the throne of a just offended God!

“ Is not this an act of more heinous atrocity, than any of the wrongs for which a justiciary court has awarded judgment of death?—For in the latter, a time of repentance, thro’ grace, may be obtained, and a foundation of hope ascertained;—but in the former case, no such blessing can be promised;—it is a voluntary race to perform the works of the cruel enemy of souls,—cutting off the wretch from a means of obtaining peace and pardon, to sink into the abyss

of

of destruction!—And in our view of the crime it amounts to against the peaceful law of society, the calamity is truly great,—for in this deluded notion of supporting the empty title of false honor, or nominal heroism, the most worthless of the sons of Adam, may, if he is what is styled a gentleman, that is to say, a man of property, call forth a man of integrity, worth, and respectability, who may perhaps have an amiable wife and several children, whose sole happiness depends upon the valuable life of this gentleman, and thro' the mistaken notion of honor, upon the summons of this worthless character, be brought to an appointed spot, as you both are at this period, and by an exchange of fire, or a thrust of a sword, this infatuated, yet amiable gentleman, is carried home on a bier, lifeless, to his family!

“ The

"The Villain escapes!—boasts of his courage, or rather savage nature,—as he possesses neither the fear of God or Man,—and evades the hand of justice, for so heinous a crime with impunity;—tho' in fact he is literally the murderer of the fallen victim to this barbarous custom:—leaving a disconsolate widow, and orphan children, to bemoan and lament his untimely fate!—Pray therefore, you giddy headed and over heated young men, relinquish a pursuit of such serious consequences—for everlasting happiness or misery depends on the fall!

This serious remonstrance had a good effect upon the duellists and their seconds;—all of them acknowledging the truth of what Lord Bellview had advanced.—The consequence was, Lord Fairford asked Captain Colville's pardon, as being the aggressor;—and in order to shew

a due sense of the impropriety of his conduct, relinquished the pretensions he had assumed for Lady Ann Catesby;— promising, in the presence of these credible witnesses, to add his good offices in forwarding the Captain's happiness with that lady.

Thus was stopped the effusion of blood, which would have been the consequence, were it not for the timely interposition of this reverend and right honourable character. A leison not beneath the notice of those sons of wantonness, who shed blood to satiate a brutal inclination of a fiend-like wish of revenge!—A spark, kindled by the very arch fiend himself, which cannot be extinguished without human gore, unless a calm friend of peace, with his attention to the heedless opponents, forwards a reconciliation.

It was a remark of the celebrated Dean Swift, "that when two gamblers fell out, the only way to decide their quarrel, was, like men of spirit, by a duel; then if one or both were killed, it was only ridding the world of one or two rascals." — *Ne oublie!*

The Duellists, their seconds, and the noble peace-maker, retired from the spot to their respective homes, quite satisfied with the reconciliation that had taken place; — and which, it is to be hoped, gave them an useful momento.

Lady Dampier and her daughter arrived at the city of Algiers, the once celebrated city of Carthage, the Queen of Nations, but now of a despotic petty Prince, styled the Dey, or Grand Lord, — who is as absolute over his subjects, as though they were a herd of swine; — their lives and fortunes being always at his disposal, unless he is cautious of the

Cap.-

Captains or Commanders of his bands or troops, who often rise as conspirators, cutting off suddenly the tyrant for some bloody act;—as his word is a law, and his soldiers executioners.—Yet every crowned head in Europe, as also every state, are more or less tributary to this Infidel depredator; or else their subjects feel the fatal effects of such a neglect.

This may seem strange, that a petty Prince, whose dominions is little more than the size of a county in England, should keep all christian powers in awe! —But to eradicate the evil, would require no less an extirpation, than to destroy the race of this infidel sect, that swarms all over Africa, Asia, and some part of Europe;—for as soon as one set of these marauders are put to the sword, a like number flock to supply their stead:—for desperation in fight is their acknowledged disposition.—Added to this,

this,—a chain of these Barbarian Lords, called Beys or Begs, are settled all along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea ;— therefore can, in a few hours be out at sea, and in the like time return with their prizes into any of the ports of these piratical states, who are always so far united, as to aid and assist against christian powers.

Upon Lady Dampier and Charlotte's arrival, they were waited on by the proper officers of the state, who conducted them, with the usual formality or ceremonial, on the introduction of persons of the first rank at Court; and were escorted safe to the Hotel of the British Ambassador, who received them with no less joy than surprise :—Sir James, having at that instant, Lord Dacie and Miss Colville, with other notable characters, at dinner.

The

The surprise was of the most agreeable kind to Miss Colville,—that she might be assured of Lord Dacie's performance of what he had so profusely promised, when opportunity would serve.—The effect of surprise was on the contrary with his Lordship,—he was greatly disconcerted,—but was constrained to yield to the stroke of his own cunning;—he had no back doors nor ways of escape,—he had promised, in the presence of a principal Lord at the Algerine Court, Benhaded,—therefore to rescind would endanger his liberty.

Lady Dampier was all fury on the sight of her nephew, and in spite of all remonstrance to the contrary, she loaded him with every vile epithet her passion could suggest,—imagining, he had got beyond any method of retribution to her daughter Charlotte;—supposing, he had been married to Miss Colville:—but on

her

her being undeceived, she became more calm.—But Charlotte was so affected at seeing the perjured Lerd, that she swooned away, and was some time before she recovered.—On her being informed of the singular adventures of Miss Colville, she was astonished, and contrary to her general practice, thanked heaven for her fortunate escape;—but the liberty such an accident left in Lord Dacie's power to do her justice, was partly an incitement for her praise to heaven for so fortunate an incident.

She gave Miss Colville a satisfactory account of the beloved Henry, (whom she, as well as Henrietta once had loved to distraction; but finding her endeavours fruitless, had combined with Lord Dacie, to assassinate him, as has been in the former part of this narrative fully set forth) Miss Colville was happy

to hear of her dear Henry's welfare, and wept for joy on the occasion.

The hurry of the day being over, Lady Dampier and her daughter much fatigued with their voyage, retired to rest. — Lord Dacie found no place wherein he could enjoy a peaceful hour. — The whole night passed without his being able to get any sleep, to forget his burdens, which were now become seriously a weighty load;—for he saw the hand of a supreme power dealt to him the bitters, which he himself, had so long mixed for others.

Early the next morning Sir James Dampier was waited on by Benhaded Mustapha Beg, who, on hearing that the injured young lady was arrived, came on purpose to pay his compliments to her and Lady Dampier.— But the most material cause of his visit, was to see the promises of Lord Dacie fulfilled.

After

After a ceremonial had taken place between Lord Mustapha and the Ladies, Lord Dacie was summoned to attend; and on his introduction, the Algerine informed him, he should be glad to see the ceremony of marriage performed by the Ambassador's chaplain, which would make his Lordship happy in the Lady for whom he had heard him express such a strong regard, and which would, according to the christian laws, make them one flesh.

His Lordship found all evasion would answer no end, but to expose his principles to a clear view, and his person to real danger,—so he tamely submitted to the matrimonial bondage!—A happy state for all those who enter into it, with a true sense of the utility of it,—and the institution is really the work of the almighty;—therefore it is an honourable state, — which should only be performed

formed by mutual consent;—for an union of the friends or relations of the bride and bridegroom should take place prior to the nuptial solemnization;—which, between the couple joined in wedlock, should be pure and disinterested.—At least so far as avarice is concerned, an unmixed love should be poured out, in which the happy pair should partake alike!—For we daily see the fatal effects of forced compliance in this respect, and what may well be deemed a Smithfield bargain!—as, to the God of Mammon, (*fordid interest*) are sacrificed multitudes!—The consequences are too obvious, as the annals of Doctors Commons can set forth an abundance of examples.—Parents should be tender, and children dutiful, then mutual happiness would ensue.

Another great bar to the matrimonial happiness in the lower class, is the

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exorbitant sum a licence amounts to, and of course is the cause of many wretched prostitutes, with whose abandoned pageantry the streets of the Metropolis are constantly thronged.—The legislator would do well to devise a means to lessen their number.—To a mind fraught with the fear of God, or the shame of man, a life of prostitution must appear most odious;—for this step must convince the frail female, who is so credulous as to believe a designing man, that she acts directly against the laws of God; and is in a state of everlasting punishment, unless a true repentance takes place; and at the same time she is an outcast to society,—despised and abhorred,—a wretch subject to disease and death by the iniquity she follows,—carrying evident marks with it of the wrath of heaven for such a breach of God's commandment, and in the words

words of good Bishop Cranmer, “a living sacrifice to the devil.”

The alteration marriage made in Miss Dampier, now Lady Dacie, was evident: she shewed in her eyes a sparkling of joy.—All present were festive,—mirth and good humour closed the day;—his Lordship throwing off the gloom, every face shewed the marks of approbation.—Night closed the scene,—the rising day renewed the festive board, which a third day closed without any accident to affect the tranquility of the assemblage.

Lord Dacie and his Lady were very soon reconciled, and happy in each other, for they were of a disposition not many degrees apart; therefore were the more likely to assure an agreement in the road of life.—He by many solemn formalities of sorrow for his past offences against Miss Colville craved her forgiveness;

giveness;—the bountiful lady did not withhold the boon, as she saw he was now fixed in the walk of life, and his pretensions to roam were at an end.

Letters of recal arrived by the special order of the British Court.—Sir James, with his Lady, niece, daughter, and his new-made son embarked for England.—In the prosecution of their voyage we shall leave them, and see what the island they were bent to produced previous to their arrival.

But this article should not be dismissed without remarking, that notwithstanding the illiberal stigma thrown out on foreigners of all denominations, by the generality of British subjects, and more especially against those who do not profess the christian faith, (for prejudice is of too strong a composition to bias even principles of benevolence!) in the good Lord Enhaded Mustapha,

Sir

Sir James Dampier and all his family received the most pure tokens of friendship and liberality;—which in Miss Colville's delicate sentiments she expressed “surpassed the boast of christian hospitality.”

The generous Mustapha parted with his christian friends with all the visible marks of regret, and furnished them with every necessary for the voyage; wishing them a prosperous and safe return to the country of their destination.

Sir William Howard and his son were now busied in erecting a monument, sacred to the memory of the Noble Duke of Kingsborough, who was now no more; having resigned his last breath in the presence of his brother-in-law, Sir William, and of his nephew, Henry Howard, and agreeable to an act of settlement a long time previously passed, the right

right of succession vested in Henry,— who was now the Duke of Kingsborough.

The sovereign, in consequence of the unblemished reputation Henry Howard had supported, granted him the order, his uncle, the late Duke, had been distinguished by;—so that the ensign was re-delivered by his Majesty, who was pleased to order an installation, in which his Grace, Henry, Duke of Kingsborough, received the mark of royal approbation from the hands of the monarch, as a Knight of the Garter.—A distinguished honor was thus conferred on this exalted genius of virtue and religion.

The good man is not always happy, nor free from censure,—and often falls, instead of rising in his circumstances;— owing to his using no acts to trepan the unwary in bargains of advantage and

over-

overreaching, and often dies in a prison.—Whilst the reverse is attendant on the wicked man, who uses every method to increase his wealth, wresting honesty whenever she opposes his prospects of gain;—thriving in all his undertakings, his schemes are so deep, and his plans so well laid, that nothing comes amiss;—wallowing in riches, and dying possessed of coffers filled with gold!

This may seem strange to the superficial observer, who may be impious enough to arraign heaven for such a distribution of its favors,—that the object who paid due reverence to its dictates, is of all men the most unfortunate;—whilst the wretch, who hardly ever thought of virtue, morality, or religion, or of the duties due to God or Man, is the successful agent in collecting stores and amassing wealth!—But, serious speculators, only consider

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for one moment, the difference of these two men;—one was a good man and died in prison,—his conscience was a faithful monitor,—it did not accuse him of any flagrant crime,—he had in his breast a calm resignation to the will of heaven, nor was ever known to repine, altho' he often wanted the necessaries of life;—he praised the deity for the past blessings he had bestowed, and with an enlightened hope, thro' faith, trusted him for all that was to come;—he died as composed as tho' he was falling into a pleasant slumber;—his last words were an ejaculation to the throne of grace, to receive his departing spirit,—and he closed his eyes in charity with all men, having a lively hope of the mercies he was to be a partaker of.

The latter end of the bad man, who breathes his last in a pa'ace, is quite the reverse of the dying moments of the good

good man.—All his parade is nearly ended,—the turn of lawyers and physicians are now over,—*a deadly arrow* is placed in death's bow;—the pangs of a tormented soul, the never dying worm, Conscience, now stares him in the face, accusing him of all the frauds, acts, and deceptions he has used to amass his ill-gotten pelf,—and reminding him, that he had never spared an hour for serious reflection from the busied scenes of his worldly cares, to fix upon a time for repentance!—No, it is true he did not, for death sent him a summons as he was calculating the annual amount of his interests by usury!—two days more, left him a lifeless corse;—but before his death, his will was hastily sketched,—he left a sum to endow an hospital, but the rest was devised and bequeathed in such terms of ambiguity, that the law will necessarily swallow up the principal part

part of it, to ascertain the right of the claimants. His last agonies, as he entered the valley of the shadow of death, were for the wrongs he had done the good man, who died in prison,—and by whose first assistance he had gained reputation in the world;—he, with despair painted on his brow, buffeted by the acuteness of the stings of death and conscience, sighed out his last breath, with a declaration of hope having entirely fled!

Now which of these conditions is the most desirable, or the most to be envied?—The reader will pardon this digression, when told it is intended to shew the common pictures of every day's exhibition,—which should teach us never to repine at the situation providence has allotted us, but to be diligent to do the best we can by honest means and methods;—for a bad heart is the source of evil actions; therefore, an honest mind-

begets an active disposition,—for indolence is an inlet to every vice.

The resignation of Lord Fairford in favor of Captain Colville, at Ashbridge, was not a matter of willingness in the former,—it was a pusillanimous spirit; —he was fearful to rouse the latter, as he saw in him a potent competitor, and who he was certain had Lady Ann's affections.

He turned his thoughts towards Miss Lee, the niece of the Marquis of Languedoc, a Lady whom we formerly mentioned as a person of a considerable fortune and accomplishments.—In this pursuit he was not an unsuccessful adventurer, for the Lady countenanced his addresses, by the order of the Marquis, her uncle, and by the direction of the 'Squire, her brother, so that a short courtship brought them as forward as those

those the croiles of human life had buffeted, who began their courtships almost three years sooner;—for there is a something that may intervene, were our determination to be ever so punctual,—“time and chance happeneth to all men,”—as all the other characters of this narrative have experienced.

The Duke and Duchess of Ashbridge were now upon better terms with Lord and Lady Colville, judging, that from the appearance of things, their son, Lord Dacie and Miss Colville were by this time man and wife, tho' it appeared extraordinary to all parties, that there was no authentic account of their situation:—Altho' the news-papers of Great-Britain, as also those of the most general report on the Continent, were authorized by public advertisements to set forth their destination or residence,

if it could be found out.—However, as yet no news whatever had transpired, as Sir James had dispatched his express from Algiers previous to the arrival of the parties in question, and Lady Dampier and her daughter had embarked without knowing the result of their voyage;—and as public scandal was the incentive which made them seek an asylum beyond the seas,—it proved a lucky resolve.—But these words, luck, chance, fortune, &c. are not to be explained as they are generally accepted,—for these synonymous expressions for the providence of heaven, must be supposed, and absolutely construed, as the order, direction, or permission of the supreme power.

Captain Colville received an invitation from Lady Ann's parents, and a permission from his own, to renew the formality of courtship;—and things

that

that affected the serious business were so nearly got over, that the marriage settlement was in its draft for perusal and amendment;—so that the captain wore a face of prosperity.—Yet it was the determination of the parents of both parties to delay the solemnization of their nuptials, until a true and satisfactory account of the persons missing could be obtained.—*Prêt d'accomplir—Foy pour devoir.*

The elegant monument which was erected to the memory of the late Duke of Kingsborough, at Highmeadow, in the Church-yard of that town, which contained the remains of his Grace, the family vault being near it, (and which was but a mile from Howard's-Castle, in Devonshire,) drew a great many polite families to view it;—as his Grace, Henry, Duke of Kingsborough,
was

was the architect himself, and had all the work performed under his immediate inspection and direction.—This employment diverting him a good deal from the melancholy habit he had formed since he had lost his dear Henrietta,—a name he never mentioned without a deep sigh, and a trickling tear stealing down his cheek!—So deep and firm had the impression sunk the dye, that during a life of the greatest length, the noble Duke could not think of erasing an imagery view of an object whose conduct was the admiration of envy herself!

The persons of taste and rank who were curious enough to examine the beauties, elegance, and propriety of the recording marble at Highmeadow, were at once surprised, pleased, and ultimately astonished, at the taste and judgment

ment of the noble constructor and architect.

The season being now at the height for rural enjoyment, his Grace sent letters of invitation to several of his friends, amongst whom were the entire family of Lord Colville, including the General;—the Marquis of Languedoc and his family, which of course included all the younger branches;—the Duke of Ashbridge and his family;—the latter he wished to see, that he might exchange forgiveness of any supposed fault on either side, that had caused such a singular change in his family.

The company was very numerous indeed, and all bestowed many compliments on his Grace's tribute to his deceased uncle, in the excellence of the curious work erected to his memory.—The modest Duke on every such occasion denied his ability; but the worthy

Baronet displayed his properties and talents to the advantage due to his merit, which intrinsically was of the utmost value to benefit society in all ranks of life.

The weather being remarkably fine, the winds were laid asleep in the bosom of the smooth beguiling glaze of the brackish element,—the scaly brood wan-toned in the slow movement of the pearly flood,—scarcely a zephyr whispered thro' the lofty tops of the grove of pines, that overlooked the craggy guardians of Neptune's domain, with an unbounded view of sea and sky;—the birds were warbling out their morning carols, extolling the beauties of the scene,—lambs ran frisking round each other, gently straying a small length from their dams;—the cattle were eager at their morning's repast, instinctively foreboding the south declination of the

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luminary of day would render the heat more than they could labour under, to crop the flowery variegated stems which reared their heads in vegetative pride.— Nature seemed leisurely to put off her morning attire in the filtered waters of the ascending dew, whose aromatic odours perfumed the air with the sweet-ness of fragrant compositions.

This was the morn the worthy Baronet and his noble son had fixed on, with the approbation of all the notables present, to form a summer camp along the plain, that took in the little harbour of Bay-Mouth,—in which it was usual for coasters to put in, when a calm sea or contrary winds made it necessary for their convenience,—there to lay at anchor in safety.—When the creek was gained, all the points of the compass could not affect their safety,—for it was a dock locked in from danger;—but the dif-

difficulty of obtaining it in boisterous weather, made many unskilful mariners suffer loss by the attempt.

Marquees were erected,—a parallelogram was shaped,—distinct streets were formed transversely, so that an unobstructed view of the level surface of the extended sheet was carefully preserved:

About ten o'clock the little town was completely built;—a distant view was beyond description beautifully picturesque.

The azure vaulted roof overspreading the amethyst of liquid particles, raised in idea something superior to the admired works of nature,—bespeaking at once the residence of the Apologued Genii.—The beautiful simplicity of the canvas walls,—and its more beautiful female inhabitants, with its gay males, made the Duke's encampment look like the land of enchantment;—for it made

its

its appearance, and possessed its inhabitants in so short a space of time, as made the honest rustics stand aloof, rubbing their eyes, questioning the reality of the scene.

The day advanced with smiles to the south west declivity of Sol's bespangled path, and on removal of the dining covers, the charms of music enchanted all around, and discord with her bristly young made a quick deceasian; for concord and her heaven-born offspring fancifully played their aerial transitions, whilst echo answered to encore :—and on the downy wings of the breathing offspring of time, were pleasing thrills carried along the glasly surface of the silent deep.—*Tout vient de dieu.*

In this elysian hour of soft soothing into forgetfulness, a ship in full rigged trim, just had hove in sight, and turning

ing the point of the jutting promontory, seemed to want the aid of the gentle blasts of boreas to plough the furrow of the yielding tide.—Her royals were set, —every wing was expanded to assist her to catch the fleeting gale,—but all her efforts seemed to fall short of the necessary supply;—and the friendly tide that drifted his sheets along the shore, only assisted the floating castle.

By this time she reached the entrance of the secure harbour of Bay-Mouth, resolving there to pass the night, and the next morning proceed up the channel.—The tars were busied in their necessary employ;—the bower anchor dropt, and in five minutes space she rested safe within the verge of land's protection.

The sea-sick passengers were struck with the enchanting sounds of harmony's assembly, and hasted from their hard beds to ascend the steps of the cabin.

The

The first who stood on deck was Sir James Dampier, the next Lord Dacie, and then the Ladies followed; but what words can paint the astonishment of the sea voyagers, when they recognized the mansion of Howard's-Castle.

Poor Henrietta, in the feelings of heart was overcome, lest her once beloved Henry was this day wed to some more happy fair; and that the sound she heard was the festive board's attendant.—She could not prevent her loss of motion, and a fainting fit followed.—This naturally created a bustle on the deck;—the new inhabitants of the canvas town flocked down to give friendly assistance;—amongst the foremost was the gallant Duke of Kingsborough,—but the sight of her he loved above himself,—his dear Henrietta,—his all,—his care, was just recovered from her weakening sensation!—He sprung from land upon.

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upon the deck, and in his arms clasped the dear idol of his affections!—He with enraptured voice, cried, “ my dear! my long lost Henrietta!”—She in the same juncture exclaimed, “ my dearest Henry, oh !” — Utterance failed, and they both dropt down insensibly in each other’s arms.—The scene drew tears from all the spectators,—no eye was dry, —joy had her torrents,—and a speedy release was given to all fears by Sir James Dampier, who in a few words gave the history of all their adventures. A second torrent of joy took place and diffused itself to all around.

Henry and his charming Henrietta were now reanimated,—a thousand soft embraces took place,—the happiness of seeing each other without the most trivial spot to fully their native purity, rendered them all the happiness a terrestrial state could admit of.

THE SCHOOL OF VIRTUE. 111

A thousand greetings were given and as oft returned by the rural and the debarked friends,—parents and children became overjoyed,—it was a scene of inexpressible happiness,—formed in the most romantic strain, to charm and surprize!

The noble Henry took the fair partner of his soul into his tent;—but as the sea had made her health yield to a temporary indisposition, it was judged necessary that she should, as well as the rest of her company who had debarked, retire to the manion, to take the refreshment of sleep on the settled solidity of terra firma.

It was a matter of curious investigation, the means by which Lord Dacie was ensnared.—His parents seemed mightily pleased that he had it in his power to heal the wound the family reputation had sustained.—The noble

noble Henry shook his Lordship's hand and wished him joy!—at this the crowding spectators were surprised:—His Lordship would have coined a form of words, to palliate the course his villainy had taken;—but to the generous Duke a repetition of the errors of human life was a painful sensation.—He politely entreated his Lordship to repeat no grievances,—that with the works, their remembrance was forgotten, oblivion having enveloped all traces of their existence.

An universal approbation of the liberal minded Duke's method of forgetting injuries on granting forgiveness then succeeded;—peace and harmony walked hand in hand to conduct the well paired couples to the castle of hospitality;—where sincerity, honor, and beneficence, sat at the door ready to receive the guests.

The

The next day the scene opened with the approbation of prudence, on the reinforcements of content and happiness.

Sir William Howard addressed the seniors of the assembly,—who one and all coincided in his opinion, that an union between the junior matched Ladies and Gentlemen, should take place in a few days.—The first couple who received the address were, the long-afflicted pair, his Grace the Duke of Kingsborough and the honorable Miss Henrietta Colville;—with a salute of acquiescence the happy, happy pair, gave notice of their readiness to comply.—The honorable Captain Colville, and the right honorable Lady Ann Catesby were the next.

Then the right honorable and reverend the Earl of Bellview, and the right honorable Lady Olivia Beaumont.—The
right

right honorable Lord Fairford and the honorable Miss Lee were the fourth and last whose assent were requested.— All of these, well-paired happy persons were content to attend at the altar.

The necessary documents were transmitted to the Metropolis;—special licences were procured,—and after a few days delay, the several persons above-mentioned attended the solemn ritual ceremony, and became of the nearest kindred to each other.—The connubial knot was tied by each pair in succeeding order; — the neighbouring villagers partook of the festivity;—Hogsheads of elevating drink, and barrels of sound rectified liquors, with provisions in plenty were provided, as the ~~Beverages~~ of the populace;—the bells rang a joyful peal;—music echoed thro' the glade and adjacent groves;—bonfires and illuminations crowned the night;—and

Howard's-

Howard's-Castle consummated the happiness of wedlock.—The succeeding day ushered forth the honorable appellation of man and wife, between four new made couples;—and we may almost venture to say a fifth,—for Lord and Lady Dacie, were then but in their second moon.

Thus the sport of time became the serious work of completion;—and in the full scope of imagination, we may indulge ourselves a little, in reviewing the true happy state of ten ladies and gentlemen of rank and fortune.

A fortnight had nearly elapsed before any of the assembly counted the days,— so easy did time steal on the wings of pleasure and contentment, who were united to lull the group from thoughts of care.

A day was appointed for the collection of friendship's numbers to disperse,—
but

but prior to their separation, an excursion on the smooth settled sheet of the ocean, in a large barge constructed on purpose for coasting jaunts of pleasure and recreation, was proposed.

The day arrived,—the aged persons who were of this notable assembly, did not partake of the entertainment on the water,—they chose the safety of firm footing;—and in land vehicles pursued the pleasures of the day,—and all parties were to meet at an appointed place of rendezvous; — a cold collation and the canvas coverings of the tent equipage, were sent before.

The morning was remarkably serene, —a solemn silence reigned over the face of the deep,—all nature seemed hushed in drowsy slumbers;—no noise ventured to wing its course in any direction,—a still solemnity sat to judge the events of the day.—The sun ascended from his watery

watery pillow with a drowsy appearance, as tho' he was bloated with the intemperance of the night;—his bright golden locks seemed tinged with singy red; —the azure roof was vineer'd with streaks of pale reflecting tumors partaking of a watery galaxy;—no one present professed prognostication from the appearance of heaven,—for every one was intent on the business of preparation.

About eight o'clock in the morning on Thursday the 29th day of July, the ten new married persons, with General Mounsey and his Lady, and a set of necessary attendants to work the barge, embarked with alacrity on board the pleasure boat, which was decorated with taste and elegance by and under the order and direction of his Grace the Duke of Kingsborough.—The tide with gentle shifting assisted their endeavours;

—and

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—and with an easy sail, flow in motion, they quitted Bay-Mouth Harbour.

The Duke and Dutches of Ashbridge,—Lord and Lady Colville,—the Marquis of Languedoc, and his Marchioness,—Sir James Dampier and his Lady,—and Sir William Howard, accompanied by 'Squire Lee, (who did not much approve of the watery element) took open carriages that gave them a constant view of the barge, which by mutual agreement, was to keep in sight of the shore.

Thus equipt, the debarkation and alighting was to be precisely at four o'clock in the afternoon.—The next day at that hour was the time appointed for their return.

The day was pleasant at the hour of setting out,—every one was pleased with the prospect of the pleasures of it.— Views from sea and land were equally de-

delightful;—every angle of the shelving shore shewed something of a different prospect, to that which a few minutes before had opened to the view.—Meandering brooks,—purling rills, shady groves,—flowery valleys,—wooded copses,—craggy summits of weathered beaten rocks,—thus the variegated face of nature shewed its rural and natural appearance.

Anon the shew of art, industry, and toil.—The new mown fields—the yellow beds of thriving grain,—the ripened vegetable root, shewed by its stem the mature state it enjoyed;—with these might be viewed the neat, snug, and well-built farm-house, with the convenient yard adjoining,—the domestic animals with busy care seeking their food in receptacles of their wonted usage.—The cattle in peaceful plenty enjoying the spoils of nature's spontaneous herbage;—

herbage; — the sheep in wandering flocks on the sweet tasted verges of the bounded plain, cropping the honeysuckle,—the arch-notioned goat ascending the steep ridge of the almost perpendicular mount, where rocks ledging as steps serve the turn of the adventurous beast's clambering disposition to nip the bitter herbage of the craggy precipices, which in his taste is delightfully palatable.—The laborious horses are with a servile concordance yoked, and harnessed to the loaded team wagon.—The early farmer and his sturdy assistants are with their brawny limbs, exposed to the insults of the weather, at the various employments of reaping, mowing, binding, pitching, or stacking of the various productions of harvest's extensive fields.

The shifting scenes afforded a wide field for instructive lessons to the idle and

and dissolute.—To see the laborious cares that were necessary to bestow to foster the productions of the prolific furrowed land, so as to present them ready for the use of the mincing epicurean!—Should not those labouring sons of the plough be honoured as the first in arts?

—Their science is of comfortable reflection;—transposing the weak ~~leaf~~ of rising grass in November's snowing reign, to the fine texture of the wheaten leaf of July.—The calf of March to the sirloin of Christmas,—with many other branches equally useful and indispensably necessary.

These prospects pleased the eye, and gave an agreeable allusion to active life, in the parties that were travelling both by sea and land;—who passed near four hours in pleasing confabulation.—The sea voyagers, as we may stile them, were remarkably happy, as they were all

on deck, in view of every scene of delight; and were in regular pairs, to match in the participation of instructive or recreative conversation.

The planet of day was now got to his greatest altitude; and ere the timepiece pointed it was five minutes past noon, there arose a murmuring in the breezes that had just then sprung up.—The trees with a silky confidence made a sudden rustling, as tho' their boughs were crushed by an invisible power;—the waters curled, verging in oblong sheets, and seemed to bear marked sinking points, as tho' engraved with a pungent machine.

The rarified atmosphere, which in the endless boundary of sight shewed a lively blue, by a raised density of particles which arose with the south west wind, (an awful layer of woolpack forms,) filled with the moon's attractive
chris-

christalized element, opposed themselves with the pale or red repositories of sol's meteors;—the caverns of the earth at the same juncture yielded up the confined fluid of the roving winds;—thus the face of heaven brought quickly in view the threats of contention between the four elements:—and as man is a composition of these four, it behoves him at all times upon such appearances to provide for his safety.

The land party perceived the approaching storm, and were fearful of its effects,—and by signs, made known their wishes, for the barge to gain the shore,—but to perform this desirable work, the watermen found impracticable;—as no creek of safety was now nearer than two leagues, and to gain it great hazard would accrue:—for the part of the country which they now were coasting, was all along a high ridge for

nearly the last six miles,—and was of the same appearance for the like number of miles, which they were obliged to pursue to obtain any place of safety in the threatening storm.—It was a dilemma of equal conclusion;—to return or to pursue were difficulties of like delay.—the wind being on their larboard bow ~~or~~ way and on their starboard the other:—So a prosecution of their voyage to the creek was determined ; there to land and remain during the night, if the weather continued boisterous, was the resolve of the gentlemen on board.

The Ladies were terrified by the timidity of the watermen, who were ten in number, but who were to a man fearful of the agitated element, well knowing the dangers of the rocky shore.—But as cowardice adds to danger, the gentlemen made light of the fears of the

the piloting watermen,—by which the ladies were somewhat calmed.

It was strikingly awful in the aspect of the persons whose consciences threatened them in the hour of danger;—and of those whose monitor held out a transcript of the ease and comforts of the heart, and whose works knew no pollution.—His Grace of Kingsburgh and his Duchess sat with countenance;—serene innocence in the latter, and resignation in the former, both joining in a doxology to heaven for all former blessings, being confident of heaven's future care, as their lives were without reprobation, except in the state of nature;—in this they were well versed, and knew the necessity of being partakers of the living sacrifice, at whose table they were constant attendants,— the preceding sabbath being their last.

Others.

Others of this polite company were not so,—Lord Dacie and his consort felt themselves differently,—for the terrors of their consciences represented death in a more horrible view, than the fabled appearance of Tisiphone, the worst of the three furies of hell.—Their hearts failed them, they almost fainted thro' the extreme of fear.

The Earl of Bellview and his charming Countess were like the noble Duke and Dutchess, just now mentioned;—they were not at all dismayed, cheerfulness appeared in each of them.—Lady Ann Colville was the same. The Captain was in tolerable good spirits, as were General Mounsey and his Lady.—Lord and Lady Fairford were greatly terrified;—the former from conviction, the latter from a timidity of opinion, that it was inevitable death, if the storm should overtake them;—not considering
the

the hand of Providence, that could raise and lay the power of the winds, or of any other of the elements.

Here we see the uncertainty of human enjoyments!—All were happy an hour before,—and now the lowering face of heaven affrighted the greatest part into the most abject opinion of the power of the omnipotent being.—But the bruised consciences of sinners will, sooner or later, convict them of the unregenerate state they are in, if a sight of danger presents itself.

The land party were not much better off!—Every one of them felt exceedingly for the danger their children or relations were exposed to.—The storm made a beginning, by repeated peals of awful thunder!—no house was near for shelter, except a barn which was now opened for the reception of early harvest.—No person was therein, so that the fore-

foremost of the travellers were housed on the falling of the first drops of the thunder shower.—Sir William Howard and Squire Lee were in the rear a quarter of a mile;—the shower commenced so heavy, that a large spreading oak, which was but a few paces from the highway, seemed a shelter from the impending storm.

By this time the smooth element which the morning had presented with such bewitching temptation, was now become a turbulent, boisterous, and furious sea ; frothing and foaming, driving its agitated mountains, in mighty torrents against the opposing rocks !—Now the happiness the morning boasted of, was sunk as far below the mediocrity of hope, as it had risen before on the approach of pleasure !—This is the barometer of man's fluctuating state !—His glass rises high, low, and perhaps runs out.

out within the hour!—So whoever places his happiness in the superficial appearance of things, may be assured he will be deceived;—and if not provided against the worst, to his utter and irreparable loss.

The barge, altho' a good sea boat, was by this time tossed at the pleasure of the furious winds.—All the rigging and ornamental decorations were torn, as if composed of paper;—and drifted into the overflowing tide.—Nothing was left to obstruct the blast but a bare mast,—the boom having been torn from it and forced overboard;—the sea rolling so dreadfully, that it was imagined, every minute, by all on board, that she must overset,—therefore the company were seated all between decks,—every man in possession of his wife;—whilst the very colouring of horror was to be seen in several faces!—but an earnest cry

cry to him, in whose hands the earth, sea, and winds are, was unremittingly poured forth

The thunder's sounding hoarseness seemed to increase, and lightning flashed thro' every crevice.—The mast was shivered into a thousand pieces, altho' no person received any material hurt!—This dreadful crash might well be supposed to rouse the very inmost thoughts of those who were so nigh the danger.—Scarce had their panic subsided, and they were again seated, when a deluge of water stove in the quarter deck, by which they were all completely wet;—and the Duke and Lord Bellview were slightly wounded by some splinters that flew from the forced joists.

Death now seemed to all inevitable, so each resigned himself to God in prayer!—but Lord Dacie essayed to go up to the rails which formed the netting

on the quarter deck,—in this he was opposed by the two wounded Noblemen, who remonstrated with him on the impropriety of such conduct;—but he replied, death was as certain between decks as above, and as he could swim well, perhaps he might save his life.— In this whim, or rather presuming notion, he was joined by Lord Fairford, who said he had the like abilities.—Lord Bellview advanced every thing he could against such a step,—adding, it was a piece of cruelty to leave the Ladies in this minute of trying danger and extremity;—and that it was an offence to the Deity to act upon such principles; for a man should at all times hazard as much on his wife's account as his own:—and that in men of exalted parts and exemplary lives, it had been known, that they could have saved their own lives, if they had chosen to relinquish their wives.

wives, but no instance ever occurred wherein any such men abandoned their wives in the hour of danger,—as it betrayed every thing beneath the dignity of human nature.

His Lordship's words had no effect.—The Duke then conjured them to stay and share their fate, observing, that God's power was not abated;—and that there were still hopes if they could put faith in that beneficent Being, who never deceived any who really and sincerely relied on his mercy;—and further observed, that notwithstanding the violence of the tempest, and the impetuosity of the waves, he had a full assurance in his mind, and rested confident, thro' his hope in God, that they should all get safe to shore.—He therefore entreated those Lords not to abandon their wives, nor betray their confidence in the goodness of the supreme being.

All

All that either the Duke or Lord Bellview could advance, had not any effect on those congenial characters, who were in their feelings equally agitated.—The perturbed state of their minds raised them nearly to lunacy,—for to receive death calmly, they supposed to be a dangerous plan, as the word chance was of efficacy with them; therefore they went on deck and laid fast hold of the rail that supported the net work, of the fair weather seats.—In this posture they continued for near twenty minutes, notwithstanding they were within hearing of the lamentable cries of Lady Dacie and Lady Fairford; who would have been tossed against the benches, as the barge rolled, were it not that the Duke of Kingsborough and Lord Bellview took each one of them under the opposite arm to that in which their Ladies were placed.

As

As the sea rolled with such heavy shocks, it was impossible for any of the gentlemen to quit their situations to entreat the absent Lords who were aloft, spectators of the horrors of the deep!— However, General Mounsey repeatedly called aloud to them to return;—but it was in vain,—they were deaf to all entreaties.—The horrors of death were of too dreadful an aspect for either of them to open their ears to any other care than that of self preservation. — (A most striking representation of a conscious guilt preying upon the spirits, even in the very hour of death.)—The sea beat over their heads like mountains of earth, depriving them of day light.

At about twenty minutes past three o'clock in the afternoon, the railing was heard to give way; and in a great swell, in which the barge shipped a heavy sea, were carried away the netting, rails, and
of

of consequence the two unfortunate obstinate Lords! — Thus they perished through a perverse disposition! — When they meant to save their lives they lost them! — For their trust was not in God, but in their own cunning! — A deadly and a deceitful enemy to the true happiness of human nature.

The watermen, or as we should call them seamen, as they had to encounter that boisterous element, were of opinion that the barge was off the creek; as she was hitherto at liberty to drift along the shore at the pleasure of the wind and tide. The Duke ordered them to stand to the helm and endeavour to put her before the current which beat up the creek. — But still the sea kept her vehement tossing, and the winds their howling! — the rain and lightning rolled like incorporated sheets upon the shattered deck! yet, by the direction of that power,

power, whose unerring skill surmounts all difficulties, which to man oft times seems an impossibility, the barge or sea boat got to the entrance of the creek, and with a flowing tide took the further end at one sail, and stuck fast in the mud, which secured her from the ebbing of the ~~se~~ge.—Thus the votaries to pleasure gained the land!—which they all, with uplifted hands and hearts thanked the supreme power for the attainment of.

The unfortunate sons of obstinacy were now to be regretted,—but it was in vain to repine at the decrees of heaven;—they were no more!

The gay embarquants now in sadness debarked; yet thankful to heaven for their escape from the surrounding terrors of a momentary threatening death.

In their wretched plight the humane inhabitants of the little town gave all the

the comfort their humble life afforded.—Beds were got ready, and each couple thought themselves happy to find a roof over their heads, and a firm ground beneath their feet.

In the mean time the land party were not much better off,—for corroding care, and restless suspense, heightened the anxiety and almost despairing condition of those who occupied the barn.—The barge was lost sight of by them!—the dark clouds of rising billows towed above the sides of the little vessel, which at repeated times would have been enveloped in the surging waves, had it not been for the all preserving power of the invisible hand that was stretched out to help and save those for whom further work on earth was designed.—The barn lost its roof in the whirlwind of a tremendous and awful clap of thunder!—and the lightning in

a vivid flame set the sedgy covering on fire.

The housed sanctuary was now become a place of imminent danger!—All of its temporary inhabitants fled with the utmost precipitation, and sheltered themselves beneath the roof of an humble cottage, which presented itself at some distance, where they found undissembled hospitality;—the cottager and his family removing themselves from the convenient seats of their unadorned dwelling, found thereby a means to seat their hapless guests, who were now beyond the limits of patience in their anxious cares.

During the former part of the storm we have observed, the goodly Knight with 'Squire Lee, had taken their shelter under the spreading branches of a venerable oak;—in which situation they continued for a considerable time,
which,

which, according to the relation of Mr. Lee, might have been an hour or thereabouts.—During this time the venerable sage seemed enwrapped in the scenes of the awful majesty of heaven; observing to his companion, the happiness of being at peace with that power, whose works were now in performance! —that when the pleasure of the author of our being was made known to the messengers of his presence, to require our attendance, we were like the wise virgins in the parable, ready with our lamps burning the incense of a clear conscience.

The worthy man then with uplifted eyes to heaven, in a doxology of some length, expressed his acknowledgments due to the bounty of his God!— then earnestly invoked a blessing on his children, to preserve them from the dangers of the seas, and every other casual

sual vicissitude; and that they might continually have before their faces, a view of the requisites to perform the commands, and conform to the will of the most high;—granting them an emancipation from the works and words of their spiritual enemy, whose power was in the vanity of depraved mortals greatly advanced.—He further added, with devotional fervency, the hope he had in the tribunal and eternal power of the Almighty,—and in the good time of the wisdom of the deity to give him a release from the precarious situation of human life, which was a round of chequered scenes, in which the proneness of evil had gained superior numbers;—concluding with a commendation of his friends and enemies to the throne of grace, and a resignation of himself to the will of the supreme Being.

These

These last words were just gone forth, the breath being scarcely departed from his lips, when a deafening clang and dreadful rumble of ethereal fire, broke thro' the sable cloud that over hung the oak, and in the space of a lightning flash, the ball of liquid fire descended on the trunk of the sturdy overgrown druid favourite;—dividing it from the topmost shoot to the roots! — and in that instant left the speaking monitor of truth and honor, lifeless, at the verge of the grafty circumscriptio[n] of the sapient fuckers under the blasted tree!

Mr. Lee, who was attentive to the words of the departed son of wisdom, was beyond measure astonished,—afrighted,—and struck with terror, agony, and surprize!—and though he stood within a hand's breadth of the fallen great good man, he received no hurt whatever; only the electrical sensation

of

of being stunned by the proximity of the volatile flame which had lodged itself in the earth.

Some minutes passed before he collected his reason!—then on his knees, with fervent zeal, he thanked, and asked a blessing of further preservation from heaven;—and with eyes rivetted to the spot whereon Sir Willam lay, he gazed, wonder still remaining in his sight.—For upwards of two hours continuance he stood by his deceased friend:—the storm then abating, he pursued the loanſome road, to overtake his fellow-travellers,—and on his arrival at the consumed barn, saw the footsteps of both sexes, in the moistened mould. He lifted up his eyes, and perceived the cot wherein the company of the barn had found a further shelter!—he hasted thither, where he found his companions and their Ladies well wet, affrighted,

and

and fatigued.—But all their troubles slept in forgetfulness, on hearing of the fate of the honourable Baronet!—All were in tears,—terror,—and surprize!—They then, with redoubled pangs of anxious care, doubted of the existence of the sea toiled party.—Horror and amazement sat ghastly on every brow ! ——————
—————
—————
—————

Let blanks supply the place of words,
—all that the cottager's guests conceived, felt, and suffered on Mr. Lee's relation.

The town of Barpoint, which was adjacent to the coving creek in which the barge arrived, was about six miles distant.—The cottager related the safety of the sea company, if they had arrived there;—to know the truth of conjecture,

jecture, the company remounted their open carriages, and with the guidance of the peasant, hastened thither.

About seven o'clock in the evening they arrived,—but were told, the company of the barge had separate lodgings, and were gone to rest, thro' the fatigue they suffered at sea;—their garments being quite wet through with the rolling waves that the vessel had shipped in the storm. By advice of each other, the late arrived company proposed to keep silent the matter of Sir William Howard's premature death until the next morning;—judging it would, without any good accruing, or service obtained, prevent the Duke and Dutchess, his son and daughter from rest;—and with equal surprize mar the comforts of the others of the harrassed company.

A worthy clergyman, who was the only man of elevated rank or easy circumstances in the village, (for the name of a town Barpoint could scarcely claim) having just heard of several persons being in distress, — with all the humanity his sacerdotal habit should possess, entreated the weatherbound visitors to accept of his humble roof, — where he would, in the best manner he was able, accommodate them; — and expressed his regret at being absent from his house on the arrival of the barge, — else he should have lodged her company, who were obliged to accept the offers of his peasant parishioners.

The grateful company thanked the good clergyman for his urbanity and hospitality, and without hesitation accepted his kind offer; where they remained, well provided with wholesome

provisions and christian care until the next morning.

The attendants, with more assistants, took care of the body of the deceased worthy Baronet, and in a shell conveyed it into the Church, where his remains were deposited for that night.

The bargemen were equally successful in picking up the bodies of Lord Dacie and Lord Fairford, which the surfy shore had gained, at some distance from the creek of Barpoint; — their bodies also were laid in shells, and deposited in the Church where Sir William Howard was laid.

Next morning ushered in a glorious fine day of settled weather,—and the attentive parson who had lodged the land travellers, called on all the sea voyagers at their respective lodgings, to come to his dwelling, informing them of their friends being there.—They all obeyed
the

the summons very thankfully, when the humane rector acquainted the sea and land travellers with their different misfortunes.—For as yet the accidents of the one party were not known to the other.

The conjunction of parties would have afforded a real pleasure,—had it not been for the preceding accidents.—For on a perfect understanding of their misfortunes, all were blended in the lamentable scene of woe;—the day of nominal pleasure brought forth a day of irretrievable loss, grief, and anguish.

The noble Duke of Kingsborough and his amiable consort were inconsolable in the loss of their honorable father, who was a character of respectability, worthy of example.—The Duke of Ashbridge, his Dutchess, Sir James Dampier, and his Lady were exceedingly sorrowful for the untimely death of their

son.—The good 'Squire Lee, and his relation, the Marquis and his family, were all extremely grieved for the unhappy fate of Lord Fairford.—Proper steps were taken to pay a due compliment to the deceased;—the whole company returned to the seat of the late Sir William Howard, now the mansion of the Duke his son;—hearses were provided, and the bodies removed,—when after a period of lying in state, due to their rank, they were severally deposited in the vaults of the Howard and Kingsborough families, at Highmeadow, where each raised a record in marble to the memorable merit of their deceased near relations.

The Duke of Kingsborough caused to be erected under his own direction, a superb monument, with emblematical representations, trite inscriptions, and faithful records and delineations of his father's

father's never dying fame!—For in the good and great Sir William Howard, pure philanthropy, with mild benevolence and christian charity, found their abode;—and have made a name in Howard, which will ever grace human nature;—and at this period gives a name to a congenial mind, whose words and works can only be equaled by the deceased Sir William Howard.—The patron of the poor, and the husband and parent to the widow and fatherless!—
Pense à bien, J'ai bonne cause!

After the interment each family returned to their respective seats;—the Duke and Duchess of Kingsborough remained at Howard's Castle.—They solaced each other with peaceful lessons of piety, harmony, love, and tenderness, and which were their constant attendants.—Discord, irreligion, and pride, were,

were, as in the life time of the deceased worthy proprietor, denied any kind of employ or admission.—The worthy parson of Barpoint was called to the living of Highmeadow, on the presentation of his Grace, the Rector having departed this life to enjoy a better, which it is to be hoped he succeeded to, as he was truly a christian.

This change to the Barpoint parson, was happy indeed;—for it gave him a means to provide comfortably for a wife and six children, which he had done tolerably well at an income only of forty pounds a year;—but his Grace's unsolicited kindness, raised him, with the Chaplaincy to the Duke, to a living of eight hundred pounds per annum.

Ten months after marriage, the charming Duchess of Kingborough brought forth a pledge of her love, which gave to her and her Lord the happy name of parents.

parents.—The child was a male, and was baptized William, in memory of his grandfather.

The Countess of Bellview did the like honor to her Lord, in about the same-time; a daughter was the fruit of their love.

The other characters which are drawn we don't recollect had such early pledges of their affections.—But we remember, that about this time, Lady Dacie changed her name for that of Lee, which was a happy marriage;—for 'Squire Lee, the brother of Lady Fairford, was the person who became her husband. His settled principles and sedate deportment, made a reformation in the disposition of that Lady;—for Lady Dacie is now a prudent, virtuous person, and does the graces of her rank with a due sense of honor.—Her son, which was born as heir to Lord

Dacie,

Dacie, in the expectant rank of the Dukedom of Ashbridge, is a fine promising child;—and his grandfather the Duke, has applied to the upper house, and settled in him the right of succession.

Lady Dampier's pride is somewhat humbled;—she now begins to think she cannot live for ever;—and altho' she has worn grey hairs these ten years, she has retained the vanity of dress, fashion, and conversation until within these last six months.—It is to be hoped, in six months more, she will have forgotten that paint, pride, and ostentation, in advanced life, is incompatible with religion, mortification, and repentance.

The moralist may deem the victims of an untimely death, a singular instance of the visitation of heaven, and rather a forced method to raise a tragic scene;

scene;—but here it will be proper to observe to such a class of readers,—
“That God is not the author of evil.”—
“That the wicked man shall not live half his days.”—“That God delights not in the death of a sinner, but rather that he should repent and live.”—and “That time and chance happeneth to all men.”

In Sir William Howard we see superficially, a sudden and unprovided death!—But only comment for a moment,—“God is not the author of evil,” therefore, as in Elijah, who by ethereal fire had his mortal parts instantly consumed as a favor from Heaven, that by sudden death he might receive sudden glory, “for flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of Heaven,”—why not the same manifestation of God’s bounty to that wise man, who possessed wisdom and understanding,—“in fearing God, and in departing from iniquity?”—Therefore

fore it was a gracious call and a glorious change! — He was fit to live or die, as all God's elect certainly are! — By the two drowned Lords, we see plainly the end of the wicked! — they were dreadfully cast down on the approach of death; and by their fears and negligence, in mistrusting or requiring assistance from heaven, ran headlong into danger, and perished thro' the perverseness of their own hearts! — Besides, the wicked man shortens his days most certainly, by lewdness, excess, riot, quarrels, dissenders, or a violation of the laws of society, which brings him to an ignominious death.

Thus life is shortened by the wicked man! — And that, agreeable to the preacher of wisdom, "*Time and chance happeneth to all men.*" — Certainly they do, for time is the measure of his probationary stay in a sublunary state.—

Chance

Chance is a synonymy of the manner of his exit, whether naturally or violently; —so that on the whole review of human nature, it must be allowed, “*that vice like envy carries the sting of its own punishment;—whilst virtue like innocence carries its reward with it, in a conscience void of offence towards God and Man.*”

THE END.

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